

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL  
EDUCATION

Developmental Disabilities Committee Meeting

LOCATION

Governor's Council Conference Room  
3601 C Street  
Anchorage, Alaska

Teleconference

Meeting Date

November 5, 2014  
1:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Art Delaune – Chair  
Anthony Cravalho  
Mary Elam  
Mallory Hamilton  
Maureen Harwood  
Christine King  
Kaleene Lamb  
Lanny Mommsen  
Ric Nelson  
Mark Romick  
Lizette Stiehr

Staff:

Britteny Howell  
Kristin Vandagriff

Minutes prepared by: Jeannette Rice, Peninsula Reporting

**Call to Order –1:02 p.m.**  
**Roll Call**

**WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR**  
**INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND GOOD NEWS**

There were no announcements at this meeting.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

There was not a quorum at this meeting, so the agenda and previous meeting minutes could not be approved. However, Lizette Stiehr noted an error in the September minutes that stated that she had replaced Kim Champney as executive director of AADD. Lizette clarified that Kim is still the president and Lizette is the new executive director. This revision will be made to the September minutes before they are approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Brittney Howell pointed out a press release that was included in the meeting packet announcing the appointment of Patrick Reinhart as the new Governor's Council Executive Director.

Also, a letter was submitted to the Medicaid Reform Advisory Group, to be discussed under that item on the agenda.

**REPORTS**

***Chair's Report***

Art Delaune stated that he had no specific DD-related news, but he had been thinking about the outcome of the recent election and noted that Adam Wool will be replacing Representative Pete Higgins, who has been supportive of Council issues. Art urged committee members who have new senators or representatives to visit them and talk about things the Governor's Council has done in the past and is now working on. Christine King suggested organizing a meet-and-greet both before the January meeting in Juneau and in conjunction with the public testimony then.

## ***Intellectual/Developmental Disability Unit***

Maureen Harwood stated that Odette Jamieson has retired and Lesil McGuire is their new chief of program.

Maureen reported that the I/DD registration and review is currently processing amendments and renewal plans in a timely way. They are behind in some assessments, but all of those are due to the applicants' failure to submit required information. Maureen stated that there continue to be about 700 people on the wait list, of whom 25 percent have scores of zero, so they are registering but not necessarily waiting for services. SDS is doing a draw this month of 20 or more people, staying on target for 200 for the year. Maureen added that the Governor's Council had requested that the Division provide some information about the developmental disability registration and review and how it is used, and they are working on that.

## ***AADD***

Lizette Stiehr reported that SDS and the Community Care Coalition have had two meetings, and SDS is scheduled to meet with the federal staff at CMS regarding conflict-free case management, which is required to be implemented by July of 2016. Lizette stated that SDS has three main questions for CMS: whether having taken steps with room left for negotiation by 2016 will be enough; what is the meaning of "no affiliation"; and what happens with exemption in places where there is one provider and one care coordinator.

Lizette reported that Amanda Lofgren attended one of these meetings, and it was agreed to ask the Trust for a grant to do the design work on a case management and care coordination system that would serve the Department. Lizette said that they hope to submit that grant in the next couple of weeks and move forward on design as quickly as possible.

Finally, Lizette noted that Senator Dunleavy's aide Laura Maketa has put out a synopsis of a bill to make adult foster care possible, and if that legislation is put forward this year, the Governor's Council would want to support that.

## ***Key Coalition***

Steve Lesko has retired, and John Cannon is the new president of Key Coalition. John Cannon will be notified of the next DD Committee meeting. Key Coalition will be meeting in Juneau February 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>.

## ***Council and Executive Committee Update***

Ric Nelson reported that the Executive Committee met last week. They discussed how the October Council meeting went, and planned for the January Council meeting.

Ric noted that he gave testimony on behalf of the Governor's Council at the meeting of the Medicaid Reform Advisory Group last week.

## ***Peer Power***

Ric Nelson reported that Peer Power has received an EPIC grant of \$25,000 a year to work on technology, to broaden their self-advocacy movement, and to travel to rural areas. Peer Power had its general membership meeting last week, and almost 20 members attended, Ric said. The next meeting is next Wednesday, and at that time they may announce a new vice-president.

## ***FASD Work Group***

Art Delaune stated that he had not attended the last meeting of the FASD work group, but they will be meeting again next week.

## ***Housing***

Mark Romick reported that new housing projects are under construction in Mountain View and the Russian Jack neighborhoods. These projects will include a lot of one-bedroom units for single individuals, and there will be accessible housing in both locations.

Mark Romick stated that the planning process for the analysis of impediments to fair housing will be starting soon. Mark added that there will be a fair housing design training sometime next spring focusing on how

to build housing that is accessible under the federal law. It will be aimed at people in construction and real estate, but open to everyone, and Mark suggested that it would be a good training for committee members and others to learn what is covered under the law and where the information is.

## **ASPEN**

Lanny Mommsen explained that the Alaska Safety Planning and Empowerment Network is currently doing their needs assessment, which includes meeting with focus groups of clients and consumers and doing key informant interviews with representatives from various agencies. They are also doing a policy and procedures review, and when the work is done they will give a needs assessment report in January. They have tentatively scheduled February for an all-day strategic planning session with all four agencies.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### ***Proposed Changes to Regulations***

Brittney Howell noted that this is a standing item on the agenda, and she had attached Teresa's presentation from the October Council meeting which summarized how the changes to the regulations affect stakeholders. Lizette Stiehr pointed out that this document is a nice overview, but it was developed when the transition plan still included conflict-free case management. Ric Nelson commented that the Medicaid Ad Hoc Committee had met recently, and planned to form a work group on the state plan when it comes out for public comment. Ric invited DD Committee members to join the group.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***Public Comment to the Governor's Medicaid Reform Advisory Group***

Brittney Howell explained that the letter in the packet was composed in a rush with requests for everyone's help and input, and it was what Ric delivered during public testimony before the Medicaid Reform Advisory Group.

Lizette Stiehr commented that she had been one of 144 people in attendance at the public testimony, and technical difficulties has prevented many of those on the phone from hearing or testifying for the first 45 minutes. The testimony went on for an hour longer than anticipated, and there were still people waiting at the end. Lizette noted that she thought the Governor's Council's testimony was well received, and it was a particularly nice venue to bring up the Council's work regarding reuse of durable medical equipment.

Brittney Howell noted that the possibility of a second public testimony session has been discussed, but no date has been set. Brittney added that changes in leadership following the election will affect how things go.

### ***Housing: Define Scope and Design of a Survey on Housing Barriers***

Brittney Howell explained that she had found this item on the DD Committee's work plan, so she wanted to get the committee to talk about it. Mark Romick commented that both the Municipality of Anchorage and the State are currently preparing surveys as part of their analysis of impediments to fair housing, and suggested that the three could combine efforts and save the Governor's Council some money. Brittney and Mark made plans to get in touch about this issue.

### ***Upcoming Meetings and Conferences***

- Early Intervention Committee, November 12, 10 a.m.
- Alaska FASD Partnership Steering Committee, November 12, 3 p.m.
- AADD Teleconference, November 13, 11 a.m.
- NACDD Public Policy Committee, November 13, 11:30 a.m.
- Project SEARCH Steering Committee, November 18, 3 p.m.
- Trust meetings November 20 (Patrick and Brittney)
- Education Committee, November 20, 1:30 p.m.
- AIEI Policy and Regulations Team, November 25, 1 p.m.
- Executive Committee, November 26, 1 p.m.
- ADRC Meeting, December 3, 11 a.m.
- FASD Workgroup, December 9, 3 – 4:30 p.m.

## **Time and Date of Next Meeting**

The next DD Committee meeting will be on December 3rd from 1 to 3 p.m.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:09 p.m.