

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL  
EDUCATION

Executive Committee Meeting

LOCATION

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

Teleconference

Meeting Date

October 22, 2013

1:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Ric Nelson – Chair

Anna Attla

Art Delaune

Dean Gates

Taylor Gregg

Margaret Kossler

Karli Lopez

Lucy Odden

Staff:

Teresa Holt, Executive Director

Christie Reinhardt

Rich Sanders

Guests:

Damaris Craig

Minutes prepared by: Jeannette Rice, Peninsula Reporting

**Call to Order –1:05 p.m.**  
**Roll Call**

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

Lucy Odden thanked Teresa Holt and Michelle Jenkins for keeping her working during the federal furlough earlier this month.

Taylor Gregg announced that she will be traveling to Washington’s Olympic Peninsula to spend Thanksgiving with her extended family.

Art Delaune said that Wall Busters had held a lunch with some Interior legislators, and Representative Steve Thompson’s office has offered to give them a lesson on BASIS in late November and to help draft a hidden disabilities awareness bill.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Lucy Odden **MOVED** to approve the agenda. The motion **PASSED**.

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

Ric Nelson and Teresa Holt noted a couple of corrections to the September 2013 minutes. The first paragraph on page 3 contained two sentences that referred to the autism ad hoc committee. Those sentences should be about the FASD ad hoc committee, and should read as follows:

“The DD Committee discussed the interest of several members in creating an ad hoc committee on FASD. Ric asked Teresa to add a discussion of the FASD ad hoc committee to the Council meeting agenda.”

Karli Lopez **MOVED** to approve the amended minutes from the September 25, 2013 meeting. The motion **PASSED**.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Teresa Holt stated that the only correspondence was a letter of support for a grant that the Center for Human Development was writing.

## **REPORTS**

### ***Chair's Report***

Ric Nelson stated that he thought the October Council meeting went very well, and he thanked everyone for their hard work in making it a success.

## **COUNCIL REPORTS**

### ***Medicaid Ad Hoc Committee***

Ric Nelson stated that he had nothing to report.

### ***Education Committee***

Taylor Gregg reported that the Education Committee has been working on all sorts of different goals, including advocating for a minimum of 20 new or amended state or public programs, policies, or practices per year that improve the quality of education for students with disabilities.

The Education Committee continues to work on drafting a bill regarding restraint and seclusion in schools. The Education Committee is also advocating for moving the age for transition services from 16 to 14 or 9<sup>th</sup> grade, whichever comes first. Taylor Gregg also noted that her committee fulfills their SEAP duties on an ongoing basis.

Christie Reinhardt added that the Education Committee had met with Jim Kreatschman, the new secondary transition coordinator at DVR, regarding a pilot program of discovery that is being planned for two high schools.

## ***Early Intervention Committee***

Karli Lopez reported that the Early Intervention Committee has been having trouble with not enough members attending meetings, with only three voting members at the most recent meeting. Ric Nelson suggested that he and Karli meet to discuss what to do about the low attendance. Karli Lopez stated that they still had a productive discussion about proceeding with the survey they are working on and what they need to ask in order to address the concerns about insurance billing and provider staffing.

## ***Legislative Committee***

Dean Gates reported that he has nothing new to report since the Council meeting, and the Legislative Committee meets on October 24th.

Teresa Holt added that the draft of the restraint and seclusion bill is almost finished, and Council staff had met with Akis from Representative Millett's office about the Employment First bill, which they hope to have finished in a couple of weeks. Teresa also noted that the new accessible taxi ordinance will be heard at the Anchorage Assembly meeting tonight, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## ***Employment/ Transportation***

Lucy Odden reported that the Employment /Transportation Committee met on October 8<sup>th</sup> and discussed many topics, including the Employment First legislation and the Integrated Employment grant. Lucy noted that customized employment training has been done in Fairbanks and Anchorage, with the next three-day session to be in Juneau November 18<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup>.

Lucy noted that the Department of Labor has been awarded a \$1.5 million grant to continue building the Ticket to Work program. Lucy stated that the Council's work on this will be done by December, with Rich Sanders assisting the new disabilities resource coordinator in taking over the activities that Rich has been working on.

Lucy added that Patrick Reinhart is at the transportation conference in Juneau October 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>. The Alaska Mobility Coalition is working on a

report for the Trust on medical transportation for people coming into Anchorage for medical care, and also on a survey about transportation needs for seniors and people with disabilities.

Finally, Lucy noted that she went with Shanna McPheters from the Division of Behavioral Health to talk to the transition coordinator for the Anchorage School District, and Lucy said that things now are very different from when she was in school.

### ***Autism***

Teresa Holt reported that the Autism Insurance Task Force met again on October 21<sup>st</sup>, and they have finished going through all the pieces, including intake and diagnosis, treatment, funding, and workforce development issues. The task force is developing a paper on each of these topics, and the first one on intake is done. Teresa said that she would e-mail it out to all the Council members and to the ad hoc committee, and she requested comments on it before next Wednesday.

### ***Health/ASPEN Project***

Teresa reported for Amanda Cooper that the Alaska Rural Health Steering Committee had met, and they are working on planning a rural health conference for April, 2014. Amanda has been working with ATLA and Access Alaska on emergency preparedness videos. Amanda also attended the Fairbanks Vulnerable Adults Resource Fair on behalf of the Council, met with the Trust about getting funding for the emergency preparedness videos, and did a needs assessment review with the Center for Human Development for the health grant.

Teresa also stated that Amanda had presented at the SILC board meeting about the ASPEN Project, and she met with Katie TePas from the Governor's office about the selection of communities for ASPEN for 2015.

### ***Peer Power***

Ric Nelson reported that Peer Power has had a busy month, holding three workshops with the consultant and revising their bylaws and articles. They

are going to have a general membership meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:30, and they are holding elections for four regional board seats that they need to fill. The next board meeting will be November 11<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Developmental Disabilities***

Art Delaune reported that the DD Committee hasn't had much action since the October Council meeting, but a work group is developing some solid goals regarding FASD so that if the Council decides to create an FASD committee, they will have objectives and goals prepared. Art stated that so far they have three members of the Council who want to be involved, and they will start meeting in the next couple of weeks.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Teresa Holt mentioned two new hires in the Governor's Council office, Kristin and Ian, and urged Council members to say hello.

Teresa Holt stated that the Trust has a Communications and Advocacy Committee which gives each board \$25,000 for the "You Know Me" campaign. This year the boards are combining their money into one big campaign focusing on employment. They plan to highlight a young man who went through the Project SEARCH program and is now working full-time, viewing it from the perspective of the student, the employer, and the school district.

Teresa reported that she gave presentations at SILC and to a class at UAA taught by Susan LaBelle, a former trustee at the Trust.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Trust Regional Summits**

Teresa Holt reported for Patrick Reinhart that the Fairbanks and Mat-Su regional advocacy summits each had 23 participants. At the Fairbanks summit, Representative Steve Thompson attended in person and Representative Pete Kelly sent a staffer. In Mat-Su, Representative Shelley Hughes attended, and staff from the offices of Representative Mark

Neuman and Senator Fred Dyson also attended. Teresa noted that Representative Hughes commented that she really appreciated the opportunity to hear stories from people on the panel because it gives her perspective when looking at budget cuts for Health and Social Services. The Anchorage forum will be on December 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **Feedback on the October Council Meeting**

Ric Nelson asked committee members to comment on what they thought about the October Council meeting and the new card system. Most comments were positive; although everyone agreed that the card system seems like a good idea, people noted that it takes time to get used to. The Executive Committee concluded that it would be helpful to refresh Council members' memories and remind them to use the system at the next meeting.

Teresa asked if having the materials online and follow-up calls from staff was helpful or not, and several committee members commented that they didn't receive a follow-up call. Ric Nelson also noted that people using iPads are not able to download the materials all at once when they are posted online.

## **PCA Policy Review**

The PCA policy review was postponed until the next meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Review of Budget Sheets by Accounts**

Teresa Holt explained the documents that she sent out on the morning of today's meeting. The Executive Committee discussed whether the full Council needs this much information, and decided that although the detailed budget information should be available to all Council members, the budget would be presented for discussion in a more abbreviated form. Ric Nelson verified that this approach conforms to the bylaws.

## **Approval of FFY 14 Travel Budget**

Teresa Holt briefly went through the travel budget and explained which events were attended every year and what funding pays for specific trips. Teresa asked the Executive Committee to approve funding for two more trips this fiscal year. The Council will send two people to the Disability Policy Seminar in Washington, D.C. in April 2014 at a cost of about \$3,500, and Teresa has an executive director training to attend at a cost of about \$1,500.

Art Delaune **MOVED** to approve the two extra out-of-state trips in the FY 14 budget. The motion **PASSED**.

## **Rate Regulation Update**

Teresa Holt explained that the rates that providers receive for services on the DD waiver system and the PCA system are changing, and the Governor's Council is supposed to give comment. Teresa noted that it is very difficult to foresee how it is going to affect the people that they care about, but SDS is not allowed to talk about what they think the implications will be once the regulations are released for comment. Teresa noted that the Council strives for good communication with SDS, and they have asked for more information to be included in Maureen Harwood's reports to the DD Committee, but Duane Mayes gives a more detailed report at the AADD meetings. Teresa suggested that Art Delaune or Carrie Predeger should call in to the AADD meetings to hear what Duane says.

Teresa Holt described the two main comments that they have come up with so far, suggesting delaying implementation of the new rate schedule and noting some vagueness in a rule about the personal income of residents in assisted living facilities. Teresa said that comments are due November 1<sup>st</sup>, but they want to hear what AADD says before finishing the Governor's Council's comments, and that will not occur until October 29<sup>th</sup>, so the comments will have to be done at the last minute.

## **Executive Director Evaluation**

Teresa Holt stated that she received the evaluation from Ric, but was still a little unclear on what the Executive Committee would like her to do. Teresa

suggested that the committee consider doing a process similar to what they do in the office, which follows the State process, and asks workers to create personal goals. In this spirit, Teresa sent committee members a sheet titled "Teresa's goals for the next six months" listing things she thinks she needs to be working on. She requested that further discussion be put on the agenda for next month. Ric Nelson suggested holding an executive session to discuss Teresa's evaluation. The Executive Committee agreed, and a time will be arranged.

### **UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- **Peer Power General Membership:** 11/4 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- **Developmental Disabilities Committee:** 11/6 from 1 to 3 p.m.
- **Peer Power BOD:** 11/11 at 5:15 p.m.
- **Employment & Transportation Committee:** 11/12, 1 to 2:30 p.m.
- **Early Intervention Committee:** 11/13 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
- **Health and Disability Committee:** 11/14 from 10 to 11 a.m.
- **Education Committee:** 11/21 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.
- **Legislative Committee:** 10/24 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS/CONFERENCES**

- **Alaska Brain Injury Network board meeting** in Fairbanks, 10/23 – 10/24
- **AADD Meeting** in Anchorage, 10/28 - 10/29
- **ABIN Brain Institute** in Anchorage, 11/5 – 11/7
- **Trustee meeting** in Anchorage, 11/21

### **TIME AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for November 22nd, 2013 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Lucy Odden **MOVED** for adjournment. Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.