

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION

Executive Committee Meeting

LOCATION

3601 C Street, Suite 740
Anchorage, Alaska

Teleconference

Meeting Date
July 23, 2014
1:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Ric Nelson, Chair
Art Delaune
Taylor Gregg
Karli Lopez
Lucy Odden
Amy Simpson

Staff:

Teresa Holt
Christie Reinhardt
Patrick Reinhart
Rich Sanders
Kristin Vandagriff
Brittney Howell

Prepared by: Sheila Garrant,
Peninsula Reporting

Call to Order – 1:05 p.m.
Roll Call

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

Ric Nelson asked for an addition to the agenda to include a discussion regarding performance evaluations under new business. Amy Simpson **MOVED** to approve the agenda as amended. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Lucy Odden **MOVED** to approve the meeting minutes from June 25th, 2014 as written. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

CORRESPONDENCE

Teresa Holt reported that she met with Jeff Jesse from the Trust, but did not receive a response to their request to meet with the Trustees. She expects to receive a written response in the near future.

REPORTS

CHAIR'S REPORT

Ric Nelson reported that the Council was busy last month. They went over the proposed regulations for SDS. Ric also reported that he attended the NACDD Conference at the beginning of July where he attended a chair training.

Ric Nelson related that he met the chair of a DD Council in Colorado who reported that they were working with Apple on a project to make their equipment more user-friendly for people with disabilities. Apple is willing to work with representatives from other states, and this is something Ric would like to have the Council move forward on. He stated that a project like they are offering would fit nicely into the five-year plan in many areas, including housing and employment.

COUNCIL REPORTS

EMPLOYMENT & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Lucy Odden reported that the E&T Committee is on summer break and will resume in August. She stated that committee members attended the National Association for People Supporting Employment First (ASPE) Advocacy Conference. Lucy stated that the E&T Committee is now current with their committee contents on the Governor's Council website.

Lucy Odden reported that the committee provided comment on the three federal rules and priorities, (1) the EEOC, the federal government as a model employer for people with disabilities, (2) wages for federal contractors, (3) job-driven vocational rehabilitation and technical assistance center. Lucy stated that the employment training is up and running in webinar format, and the goal is to offer it online by September.

Lucy Odden reported that self-employment training, along with PASS and distance delivery is now being offered monthly. Lucy stated that the E&T Committee will be working on the implementation of Employment First and supporting Peer Power as it launches into youth employment presentations, job clubs, and job fairs.

Lucy Odden reported the good news that she has been reappointed to the Governor's Council for three more years.

Rich Sanders stated that the Council sent three people to the National Project SEARCH Conference. Rich noted that the Kenai Peninsula and the Mat-Su Valley received awards for 100 percent employment of last year's program graduates, and both Fairbanks and Anchorage received the 60 to 80 percent award.

Rich Sanders reported that he continues to work with Amanda Lofgren from the Trust on the draft report on the baseline of employment in Alaska for beneficiaries. He noted that the Council is in alignment with the recommendations that are coming out in the draft report.

HOUSING

Patrick Reinhart reported that the beneficiary group has not met since the last Executive Committee meeting, but Patrick met with Nancy Burke, who is in charge of housing at the Trust, and she reported that they have developed their proposed budget recommendations, which she and Patrick reviewed for overlap with the I/DD population. Patrick noted that there was nothing new being proposed other than doing some coalition building around homelessness and housing.

AUTISM

Teresa Holt reported she has been trying to set up a follow-up meeting with Stephanie Birch, which will not happen until September. Essentially, the autism community is looking forward to coming together to try and figure out the next steps and define the leadership roles.

Teresa Holt reported that Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) put out a memo stating that behavior analysis can be covered and that states can bill it to Medicaid.

HEALTH & DISABILITY COMMITTEE

There was no report available for the Health and Disability Committee

ASPEN

There was no report available for ASPEN.

PEER POWER

Ric Nelson reported that Peer Power is awaiting approval from the IRS for the 501(c)(3) designation they applied for last month. Ric noted that the Peer Power t-shirts are in and they look great.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COMMITTEE

Art Delaune reported that the DD Committee met July 2nd, and although they had a quorum, their participation was low. There were discussions

regarding rural issues, telepractice and bandwidth and how that is working. The committee will not meet in August, but have scheduled their next meeting for September 3rd. In the meantime, the work groups will continue to work on their specific projects. The work groups include the FASD Work Group, the Medicaid Ad Hoc Committee, the Durable Medical/AT Work Group, and the Housing Work Group.

Teresa Holt noted that CMS is hosting Community Input Sessions to gather input relating to person-centered planning, independent case management settings, and services being provided in a community setting. There will be four meetings and a statewide teleconference as follows:

Fairbanks	August 18 th
Kenai	August 19 th
Anchorage	August 20 th
Juneau	August 21 st

The statewide teleconference will be held on August 22nd.

Ric Nelson requested a discussion on the reduction in PCA hours. Teresa Holt explained that SDS did a presentation at the big picture meeting regarding the implementation of the new PCA regulations. SDS has reviewed 1,900 recipients and has approximately 2,500 more to do. The adjustment in PCA hours was reported as follows:

565 people had a 1 - 30 percent adjustment
554 people had a 31 - 60 percent adjustment
255 people had a 61 - 90 percent adjustment
40 people had a 90 percent adjustment
22 people had no change

266 people had 1 - 30 percent added
76 people had 31 - 60 percent added
45 people had 61 - 90 percent added
67 people had 90 percent added

Teresa Holt recommended inviting SDS to present the data at an Executive Committee meeting so the Council can get a clear understanding of the impact of those changes.

MEDICAID AD HOC COMMITTEE

The Medicaid Ad Hoc Committee will be scheduling a meeting in the next couple of weeks.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Taylor Gregg reported that the Education Committee is on summer break, and the next meeting is scheduled for August.

Christie Reinhardt reported that in the meantime, the Education Committee is following through with their comments on the Parent Special Education Handbook. They are also drafting comments on the Department of Education investing in and improving bandwidth, course completion/challenging core courses and the assessment, and the adoption of disability accommodations and modifications for the ACT and SAT.

EARLY INTERVENTION COMMITTEE

Karli Lopez reported that Christie Reinhardt did a wonderful presentation at their last EIC meeting on the roles and responsibilities of the Council related to early intervention.

Karli Lopez remarked that she attended an event where she learned about some provisions that were written into the Affordable Care Act as incentives for people to become providers, which she believes could be useful in promoting and recruiting quality care providers. She also had a discussion with Senator Begich regarding early intervention, and he was open to the possibility of meeting to talk more about it.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Patrick Reinhart reported that the Legislative Committee is on summer break and will schedule a meeting for late August.

Patrick Reinhart reported that he, Ric Nelson and Teresa Holt participated in meeting with Alaska's congressional delegation when they were at the NACDD Conference. Rich Sanders noted that the signing of the Workforce Investment Act also took place while they were in D.C.

Patrick Reinhart reported that Council members will be receiving a legislative alert in the next few days regarding the Disability Rights Treaty. The treaty has passed out of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and will go to the Senate floor once they determine they have 67 votes. The Council is asking for its members to provide support via Senators Begich and Murkowski's offices. Both senators are in support of the treaty, but are asking for public support.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Teresa Holt reported that the Council received three new appointees and Lucy Odden was reappointed to the Council.

Teresa Holt attended the ASPE Conference where she learned of a group who has created a pipeline where various individuals in the coalition are contacts for various employers to fill employment positions with people with disabilities. The Council has already begun discussions about how to implement this. Teresa also mentioned another project out of Philadelphia where they have a supported employment agency that walks a person through the entire employment process, first by looking at their benefits, and then seeing how employment affects their benefits, and then supporting them through the process. The Council will also be looking at how this program specifically works.

Teresa Holt noted that the message from the new commissioner for the Administration on Community Living has changed focus from output to outcomes. Discussions have already begun among Council staff on how to best collect and report outcome data.

Teresa Holt reported that she attended the Partners in Employment (PIE) meeting and her takeaway related to community conversations, which is not a new idea, but it works great, and she and Ric came away with a list of things that other states are doing that Alaska could benefit from researching.

Teresa Holt reported that she attended the SDS big picture meeting where the focus was on HSS plans and objectives. She explained that each division in the Department had to define where they fit in the plan. Teresa

did a presentation on where the Council fit into the plan, and she noted that the Council touches every division in the Department. Teresa noted that the Commissioner would like to have a couple of hours at the Council meeting in October to present.

Lastly, Teresa Holt noted that Patrick Reinhart's position title has changed from Planner to Public Policy Director, which is more descriptive of the job he does.

OLD BUSINESS

MMIS DISCUSSION

Teresa Holt reported that the Governor has entered into a dispute resolution with Xerox regarding the MMIS. Ric Nelson encouraged committee members to go to their communities and talk about the MMIS debacle, and he would like to have a discussion on MMIS on the Council's October meeting agenda.

TRAVEL BUDGET

Teresa Holt led a review of the travel budgets, comparing FY13 and FY14. Following are the action items:

Amy Simpson **MOVED** that the Council spend \$6,000 to send representatives to the Disability Policy Seminar in April. Hearing no discussion, a vote was taken and the motion **FAILED**. (1 YES/6 NO)

Karli Lopez **MOVED** that the Council spend \$6,000 to send representatives to the Home & Community-Based Services Conference. Hearing no discussion, a vote was taken and the motion **PASSED**. (5 YES)

Art Delaune **MOVED** that the Council send someone to the Division of Early Childhood Conference. He **REVISED** the motion to include the \$6,000 amount to send someone from the Governor's Council to the conference. During discussion, Amy Simpson questioned the specific source of the funding. Hearing no more discussion, a vote was taken and the motion **PASSED**. (5 YES/1 NO)

Karli Lopez **MOVED** to send Ric Nelson to the Home & Community-Based Services Conference. Hearing no discussion or opposition, the motion **PASSED**.

***NACDD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
iPADS FOR COUNCIL
FIVE-YEAR PLAN
OCTOBER COUNCIL MEETING***

The above topics were **TABLED** until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

***SELECTION OF SESA BOARD MEMBERS
EMPLOYMENT FIRST POLICY FOR THE COUNCIL
PERFORMANCE EVALUATION DISCUSSION***

The above topics were **TABLED** until the next meeting.

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Developmental Disabilities Committee 8/6 from 1:00 - 3:00 pm
- Early Intervention Committee 8/13 from 10:00 - 11:30 am
- Health and Disability Committee 8/13 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm
- Employment & Transportation Committee 8/19 from 1:00 - 2:30 pm
- Education Committee 8/21 from 1:30 - 3:00 pm
- Executive Committee 8/27 from 4:00 - 5:30 pm
- Legislative Committee TBA from 12 - 1:30 pm
- Peer Power 9/8 from 5:15 - 6:30 pm

Upcoming Meetings/Conferences:

- Stone Soup Group picnic in Anchorage 8/1
<http://www.stonesoupgroup.org/Assets/SoupiesNomination2014.pdf>
- Alaska Buddy Walk in Anchorage 8/2
<https://www.ds-stride.org/alaskabuddywalk>
- Trust Finance Committee meeting in Anchorage 8/5
- Trust Planning Committee meeting in Anchorage 8/6 – 8/7
- Trust Board meeting in Anchorage 9/3 - 9/4

- SESA board meeting in Anchorage 9/12
- Fall Council meeting in Anchorage 10/1 - 10/3

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for August 27th, 2014 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Art Delaune **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** and the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.