

Governor's Council on Disability Meeting Minutes January 25, 2008

Council Members Present/Participating:

Karen Benson, Dan Card, Ed Duff, Mike Esser, Kathleen Fagin, Todd Mayfield, Sue Orton, Renee Powell, Joe Sartorius

Council Members Not Present/Participating:

Joe Colagiovanni, Matthew Hughes, Mary Ellen Jenison, Sarah Olson, Dr. Hani Soudah, Molly Tallarico

Department Liaisons:

Carol Becker (DHSS – for Nancie McAnaug), Kristin Funk (DED – DWD), Phyllis Launius (OSCA), Tim McDonald (MSHP), Robin Rust (DMH), Brenda Treadwell-Martin (MODOT), Clarinda Unger (DESE-VR)

Staff: Linda Baker, Claudia Browner, Isabelle Harris

Guests: Erin Field, Lesley Hoffarth (MODOT), Trish Vincent (Governor's Office)

Real Time Captioner: Debbie Reithmeyer

Chair Dan Card called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM. A roll call confirmed that there was a quorum for the meeting.

Introductions were made. The Council members unanimously approved the meeting minutes from the October meeting and the agenda for the day.

Report from Council Chair Dan Card:

Dan Card reported that Donna Pavlick and Kathleen Fagin have resigned as Council members and commended both of them for their excellent work for the Council.

This brings the total number of Council members (including Chair Dan Card) to 14 and the number of vacancies to 7.

Report from Executive Director Linda Baker:

Linda handed out and summarized her report for October 19, 2007 – January 25, 2008:

Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF):

Linda announced that Rep. Ed Schieffer, along with Rep. Bill Deeken and Rep. Robin Wright-Jones, is proposing legislation to make the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum a budget line item for FY2009. Linda has asked Senator Michael Gibbons to also include funds for an emerging leaders program, which is an internship program for college students with disabilities.

Linda has submitted requests for foundation funds and sponsorships to various foundations to help fund the 2008 MYLF. Edward Jones will be developing and sponsoring a Public Service Announcement about the 2008 MYLF again this year.

Business Leadership Network:

Linda has given presentations about "Creative Approaches to Inclusive Workforces" to various career centers throughout the State of Missouri.

MOBLN is planning their Spring Event in St. Louis with Monsanto trying to bring in Luke Visconti (Diversity, Inc.) as a speaker.

Legislative Education Project (LEP):

The LEP will start February 4 and will go through the end of April. Several agencies have already signed up to participate. Approximately 800 individuals receive the weekly Legislative Update.

Inclusion Awards:

Linda has presented the awards to three of the five winners. The last two awards will be presented to the Bob Aldridge Advocate of the Year and the Excellence in Universal Design & Technology winners at the Power Up conference on April 22, 2008 at Tan-Tar-A. Dan Card asked for volunteers from the Council to attend the award presentation and Sue Orton volunteered to represent the Council.

Poster and Journalism contest:

Linda announced that the GCD has already received some entries for this year's contest and thanked Edward Jones for their generous contribution to fund the savings bonds for the winners of this contest.

Presentation about I-64 Construction Project:

Lesley Hoffarth from the Missouri Department of Transportation's St. Louis office gave a presentation about the I-64 reconstruction project. The 10-year, \$535 million construction project began in 1999 and is scheduled to be completed by July 31, 2010. Ms. Hoffarth explained the project status and addressed the safety of pedestrians in the area.

Dan Card interrupted the presentation to introduce Trish Vincent, Chief of Staff of the Governor's office. He asked Ms. Vincent for her help to have new Council members appointed to the Council to fill the existing vacancies. Ms. Vincent promised to work on filling the vacancies.

After a short recess, Ms. Hoffarth finished her presentation and addressed questions from Council members, particularly relating to pedestrian safety and audible signals for people with vision impairments.

By unanimous vote, the Council decided to issue a resolution to promote the installation of audible traffic signals in connection with this construction project.

Action Item: Issue resolution about audible traffic signals.

Department Liaison Information:

Carol Becker (DHSS) informed the Council about the budget allotments Gov. Blunt has made for DHSS programs: \$2.6 million have been allotted for core public health, \$3 million for tobacco cessation and \$1.1 million for the prescription drug monitoring system. Ms. Becker also handed out information regarding legislation the Department of Health & Senior Services is following during this legislative session.

Robin Rust (DMH) gave an update about the systems transformation grant. The Quality Advisory Council for this grant has produced two publications which Ms. Rust shared with the Council. They are: "Finding a Residential Provider that is Right for You" and an informational flyer about the Money Follows the Person Demonstration grant. Ms. Rust also reported about an upcoming event in Columbia on February 21, where Dr. Joan Beasley will give a presentation about dually diagnosed individuals, crisis prevention and behavior support planning.

Brenda Treadwell-Martin introduced herself as the new state liaison for the Missouri Department of Transportation. Ms. Treadwell-Martin is the Equal Opportunity and Diversity Director of that department.

Phyllis Launius of the Office of the State Court Administrators continues her outreach and accessibility coordination activities for the Missouri courts. She reported that she will be conducting two Lunch & Learn sessions for Cole county court staff on sensitivity and accessibility.

Kristin Funk from the Division of Workforce Development (DWD, Dept. of Economic Development) reported about her work with the 18 disability navigators throughout the State of Missouri. Ms. Funk explained the function of the disability navigators. Ms. Funk also reported about the success of the 2007 Disability Mentoring Day activities, which have resulted in several youths with disabilities receiving a job. The DWD has purchased 42 UbiDuos for use in job interviews with people with hearing disabilities.

Captain Tim McDonald introduced himself as the new state liaison for the Missouri State Highway Patrol. In response to a question from a Council member, he reported that the MSHP does not use tasers at the present time. Linda Baker offered training on disability awareness to the MSHP.

Committee Meetings:

Recess was taken for lunch while Legislative Committee and Programs Committee members met.

Election of Officers:

Karen Benson was nominated as Vice Chair for Programs & Operations and Mike Esser was nominated as Vice Chair for Finance & Development. Both Vice Chair positions were unanimously voted for and declared.

The Council members nominated Renee Powell, Joe Sartorius, Sue Orton and Matthew Hughes as Executive Committee members at large. The Council members voted and elected Renee Powell, Joe Sartorius and Sue Orton as the new Executive Committee members at large. The remaining committee chairs and members were not appointed at this meeting.

Committee Reports:

Programs Committee:

Sue Orton outlined the program presentations that are being planned for the upcoming Council meetings. In April, C.H.A.M.P. Service Dogs will give a presentation. Other presentations may include “Veterans with Disabilities returning from Iraq and Afghanistan” and “People with disabilities who want to work without losing their benefits”.

Legislative Committee:

Karen Benson gave an update about the upcoming Legislative Education Project and reminded the Council members to read the weekly Legislative Updates. She also reported about a bill to officially move GCD from the Department of Labor to the Office of Administration. This bill is only a formality since GCD has been under OA for a few years now.

Ms. Benson asked Ed Duff to follow the mental health legislation, while the rest of the legislative committee will follow the non-mental health legislation.

Public Comment

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM.

The next Council meeting will be held **Friday, April 18, 2008 at 9:30 AM** at the Governor’s Office Building in Jefferson City, Room 470.

Summary of Action Items:	Person Responsible:
Issue a resolution regarding audible traffic signals in connection with the reconstruction project of I-64 in St. Louis.	Linda Baker/Dan Card

Minutes by Claudia Browner, Executive I
January 31, 2008