

Governor's Council on Disability Meeting Minutes June 13, 2008

Council Members Present/Participating:

Dan Card, Mike Esser, Gregory Greven, Mary Ellen Jenison, Todd Mayfield, Sue Orton, Renee Powell, Joe Sartorius, John Wallace

Council Members Not Present/Participating:

Karen Benson, Joe Colagiovanni, Ed Duff, Matthew Hughes, Sarah Olson, Dr. Hani Soudah, Molly Tallarico

Department Liaisons:

Patrick Baker (Department of Revenue - DOR), Walter Johannpeter (Office of Administration – Facilities Management), Phyllis Launius (Office of the State Court Administrator - OSCA), Tim McDonald (Missouri State Highway Patrol - MSHP), Lynn McKee (Information Technology Support Division - ITSD), Nancy Nickolaus (Department of Mental Health - DMH), Tish Thomas (DMH), Brenda Treadwell-Martin (Missouri Department of Transportation - MODOT)

Staff: Linda Baker, Claudia Browner, Isabelle Harris

Guests: Nola Ewers, CHAMP Assistance Dogs, Inc.

Real Time Captioner: Debbie Reithmeyer

Chair Dan Card called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. A roll call confirmed that there was a quorum for the meeting.

The two new Council members – Greg Greven and John Wallace – introduced themselves to the group. The Council members unanimously approved the meeting minutes from the January meeting and the agenda for the day.

Report from Council Chair Dan Card:

Dan Card announced his resignation as Chair of the Governor's Council on Disability effective June 30, 2008, due to health reasons. Karen Benson will serve as the Interim Chair until a new Chairperson has been appointed by the Governor. Mike Esser will continue to serve as Vice Chair.

Report from Executive Director Linda Baker:

Linda handed out and summarized her report for January 25, 2008 – June 13, 2008:

Disability Portal:

GCD and ITSD staff are working together on a 90-day project to create a Disability Portal for Missouri which will be listed on the State of Missouri homepage. This portal

will provide disability related information and resources as well as information about the Governor's Council on Disability.

Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF):

This year, GCD received thirty applications from delegates to participate in the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum. Twenty-six have been accepted and four are on a wait list. The number of applications received has doubled from 2007. Linda invited the Council members to attend the MYLF closing ceremony on July 30, 2008 at 5:15 pm at the Reynolds Alumni Center at MU.

Business Leadership Network:

Linda reported about a new BLN model for the Kansas City metropolitan area. Several corporations and agencies are interested in the effort.

Legislative Education Project and Legislative Update:

The Legislative Education Project (LEP) was successful, especially with the 1-day customized training that was added during this legislative session. Next year, GCD will start a pilot project with college students from Missouri State University in Springfield, who will receive college credits for attending the LEP.

Legislation passed to officially move GCD from Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to the Office of Administration.

GCD will receive a 3% budget cut in fiscal year 2009.

Poster and Journalism contest:

Linda announced that Sue Orton and Joe Sartorius participated in presenting the awards to the winners of the Poster & Journalism contests. In addition, some of the MYLF alumni were involved in the presentations to increase awareness about MYLF and promote leadership opportunities for the alumni.

ADA Restoration Act:

Linda asked the Council members to consider supporting the ADA Restoration Act. The Council members asked for an e-mail copy of the language for review.

Dan Card commended Linda for continuing to do a great job.

Mike Esser talked about the possibility of GCD nominating one of the MYLF delegates to attend Boys State/Girls State. He will draft a letter to find out if this is possible.

Action Item: Send ADA Restoration Act to Council members for review (E-mail). Council members need to respond via e-mail whether or not they support this act.

Mike Esser will draft letter regarding Boys State/Girls State.

Department Liaison Information:

The department liaisons introduced themselves and gave an update about their departments.

Tish Thomas (DMH) reported about the creation of a Systems Transformation work team to provide training on behavioral supports for people who transition from institutions into the community. She also reported that a Person Centered Planning grant is available to develop person directed planning for individuals with disabilities. So far, twenty-five (25) people have transitioned from institutions into the community.

Lynn McKee (ITSD) asked the state liaisons to provide links to the new disability portal. The departments will in turn be listed as links on the disability portal.

Nancy Nickolaus informed Lynn McKee about the Network of Care website for Missouri.

Phyllis Launius (OSCA) reported about her work on panel for municipal courts to inform them about accommodations for people with disabilities. A discussion about the accessibility of courthouses in Missouri ensued. Mike Esser proposed the GCD sponsor legislation to make courthouses accessible.

Brenda Treadwell-Martin (MODOT) stated that MODOT has selected an ADA coordinator for their department and that MODOT offers diversity training for their employees.

Dan Card excused himself from the meeting and asked Vice Chair Mike Esser to conduct the remainder of the meeting.

Presentation about C.H.A.M.P. Assistance Dogs, Inc.:

Nola Ewers from CHAMP (Canine Helpers Allow More Possibilities) Assistance Dogs, Inc. gave a presentation about assistance dogs. CHAMPS is a 501c3 non-profit agency that places 4-6 assistance dogs per year with people with disabilities in the St. Louis area. Ms. Ewers explained the training requirements for the dogs and training dog Moe demonstrated some of the skills. For more information about assistance dogs, please visit CHAMPS website at www.champdogs.com or Assistance Dogs International (ADI) at www.adionline.org.

Committee Meetings:

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

Committee Reports:

Legislative Committee:

(Linda Baker and Greg Greven reporting) Bills that affect people with disabilities and passed during the 2008 legislative session included the pharmacy rebate program; the name change for the State Schools for the Severely Disabled; and the hot weather utility maintenance bill.

Programs Committee:

(Sue Orton reporting) The program for the November Council meeting has been scheduled. A representative from Veterans Administration will be giving a presentation

about Traumatic Brain Injury, the “signature injury” of the war in Iraq and Afghanistan and the available services for the returning soldiers who have suffered this injury. After a short discussion, the Council members unanimously voted to schedule time on the agenda at the September Council meeting to discuss and update GCD’s strategic plan, review the 2008 Legislative Survey, and explain the GCD programs. The strategic planning document will be e-mailed to the Council members for review and comment prior to the meeting. Since the Strategic Planning Committee chair position is currently vacation, Greg Greven and Sue Orton volunteered to work with Linda Baker on the strategic plan.

The Personnel Committee chair position is also vacant. Mike Esser asked that an e-mail be sent to the Council members to ask for volunteers to chair the committees.

Some of the Council members’ terms have expired. Those who are interested in continuing to serve as Council members are encouraged to send a letter to the Governor’s office (Boards and Commissions) to ask for reappointment to the Council.

- Action Items:**
- Send strategic plan by e-mail to Council members for review and comment prior to September meeting.
 - Send e-mail to Council members asking for volunteers to chair Strategic Planning and Personnel Committees.
 - Send letters to Governor’s office to ask for reappointment as Council members.

Public Comment

None.

Old Business

Linda Baker informed the Council members about the death of Max and Colleen Starkloff’s youngest daughter Emily, who was killed in a hit and run accident in St. Louis. The Council members unanimously voted to send a letter of sympathy to the family.

- Action Item:** Send letter of sympathy to the Starkloff family.

New Business

John Wallace asked if it would be appropriate for him to personally contact all Council members prior to the September meeting to encourage them to attend. Mike Esser instructed Claudia Browner to send an e-mail to the Council members to let them know that Mr. Wallace would be contacting them by phone.

- Action item:** Send e-mail to Council members about phone contact from Mr. Wallace.

By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM.

The next Council meeting will be held **Friday, September 19, 2008 at 9:30 AM** at the Governor's Office Building in Jefferson City, Room 470.

Summary of Action Items:	Person Responsible:
E-mail ADA Restoration Act to Council members for review and comment.	Linda Baker
Draft letter to Boys State/Girls State.	Mike Esser
E-mail strategic plan to Council members for review and comment prior to September meeting.	Linda Baker
E-mail Council members to ask for volunteers to chair Strategic Planning and Personnel committees	Linda Baker
Send letter to Governor's office (Boards and Commissions) to ask for reappointment to Council.	Council members whose term has expired or is about to expire.
Send letter of sympathy to Starkloff family.	Linda Baker
Send e-mail to Council members about phone contact from John Wallace.	Claudia Browner

Minutes by Claudia Browner, Executive I
June 20, 2008