

Governor's Council on Disability

Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2015

Council Members Present/Participating:

Joan Bergstrom, Ed.D., Betty Davidson, Ph.D., Ron Hack, Todd Mayfield, DeAnna Noriega, Sue Orton, James Trout, Bob Wallace, Yvonne Wright

Council Members Not Present/Participating:

Chuck Comstock, Ed Duff, Mike Esser, Rep. Jeff Grisamore, Mary Ann Harter, Derek Smith

Department Liaisons:

Ben Burkemper	Attorney General's Office - AGO
Beckie Brietzke	Department of Transportation - MODOT
Dee Ann Fuller	Department of Elementary and Secondary Education/Voc Rehab – DESE/VR
Kristin Funk	Department of Economic Development – DED/DWD
Bobbi Jo Garber	Department of Health and Senior Services - DHSS
Misty Hill	Department of Natural Resources - DNR
Steve Milburn	Department of Social Services - DSS
Duane Shumate	Department of Mental Health – DMH/DDD

Guests:

Wayne Crawford and John Fischer, Missouri Housing; Patricia Ritchie, NAIDW

Staff:

Robert Honan, Claudia Browner, Dawn Evans, Laura Mueth

Real-Time Captioner: Carrie Logback

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. With eight (8) Council members in attendance, there was a quorum for the meeting. Introductions followed.

Approval of agenda and minutes:

The Council members unanimously approved the meeting minutes for April 24, 2015 and the agenda for the day.

Report from Chair Yvonne Wright:

Former Acting Chair James Trout officially handed over the gavel to newly appointed Council Chair Yvonne Wright. Yvonne thanked James for his leadership over the last four years and presented him with a recognition award on behalf of the Council.

Yvonne introduced herself and announced that some of her goals for the Council are to focus on employment of people with disabilities, change the format of the meetings to accommodate committee meetings, and to encourage state liaisons to become active in the Council's committees.

Report from Executive Director Rob Honan:

- Rob has met with the Governor's Office to ensure compliance with the statute in regards to Council membership. Currently, not all of the congressional districts are represented and there are several vacancies and inactive Council members. Yvonne and Rob will set up another

meeting with the Governor's Office to discuss Council membership and report back at the November meeting.

- GCD staff met with the Commissioner's office about the FY17 budget request. GCD is asking for additional E&E funding.
- Yvonne Wright's term is subject to confirmation by the Senate during the upcoming legislative session.
- The Governor's Council on Disability and several other agencies are planning the **Hands Around the Capitol** event on October 6, 2015 in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the ADA and Disability History and Awareness Month in Missouri. Rob asked Council members and state liaisons to spread the word, attend the event, and "Like" it on Facebook. (<https://www.facebook.com/handsaroundcapitolMO>)
- The 2015 **Missouri Youth Leadership Forum** (MO-YLF) was attended by a record number of 27 delegates. Rob thanked staff member Dawn Evans for her work on this outstanding program. The 2016 MO-YLF will be held July 12-16 at MU in Columbia. GCD hopes to continue the collaboration with the partnering agencies that made this year's program so successful. New for 2016: one of the alumni will be the program chair and Dawn will be the program director.
- The **Legislative Priorities Poll** is available online. To date, GCD has received more than 100 responses. The poll closes on October 30th.
- New for the **2016 Legislative Education Project** (LEP) is the "LEP on the road." In addition to the existing video and training modules that are available online, GCD staff will provide this training at Centers for Independent Living and other agencies upon request.

Department Liaison Information:

DeAnn Fuller (DESE/VR) – VR, DMH, Jefferson City Public Schools, and Lincoln University are partners of Project Search, a pre-vocational training for high school students. All seven participants of Project Search have been successfully employed.

Kristin Funk (DED/DWD) – The Missouri Career Centers are now being called Missouri Job Centers; Kristin attended the Accommodation for Success outreach program on hiring and retaining employees with disabilities in St. Louis on August 11; participated in the employment event at the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum; is planning to attend the Disability Mentoring Day event in Kirksville. An employer event is being held by the Workforce Development Board in Springfield in October.

Duane Shumate (DMH/DDD) –

- Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) is currently completing their waiver application for the Comprehensive and Community Support Waivers. Public comment is tentatively planned for late October or early November.
- There are several changes in the waiver applications to align service definitions with the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Community Setting Rule released in January 2014.
- To date, approximately 1/3rd of the individual onsite assessments have been completed to assess transition needs for alignment of practices, policies and settings with the HCBS Settings Rule.
- Missouri's Transition Plan for alignment with HCBS received favorable comments from CMS. Further efforts are being made to address areas of greater specificity for CMS approval.
- Currently there are 1,287 individuals in Self Directed Services.
- Currently, there is essentially a "zero wait" for in home services

- There are approximately 5,800 individuals accessing Day and Employment Services through the HCB waiver. Approximately 1,000 individuals are specifically accessing employment services.
- Current areas of focus are working on provider transformation from facility based, segregated services to integrated, community based services. Collaboration is also occurring with employment and high school transition with DESE VR, DESE Special Education, Workforce Development, Behavioral Health and DDD.

Steve Milburn (DSS/FSD) – Ron Hack had asked at the last meeting that the wording of a question on the MO Health Net eligibility form be changed to be less offensive to people with visual impairments. Steve reported that the language is in the statute and the form can only be changed if the language in the statute is changed.

Yvonne Wright invited all state liaisons to serve on the Council committees.

New Business:

Position/White Papers:

Rob Honan is working with the different Council committees to develop position papers on the topics of Employment (Yvonne Wright), Transportation (DeAnna Noriega), Housing (James Trout and Sue Orton), and Education (Betty Davidson and Joan Bergstrom). Rob asked the state liaisons for their review and input. The goal is to have the position paper drafts ready for discussion at the November Council meeting.

Addendum to Indoor Air Quality Policy:

James Trout outlined proposed changes in the wording of the Indoor Air Quality Policy by adding the sentence: “The American Lung Association recommends that the first line of defense against indoor air pollution is finding ways to keep the pollutants from being added to the air in the first place. The Center for Disease Control recommends “dilution of the pollution” with adequate mechanical ventilation.” The Council voted unanimously to approve the revision of the policy, which will be sent out to the Council and posted on GCD’s website.

Strategic Plan:

GCD’s strategic plan needs to be revised. Ron Hack noted that the Advocacy Committee would take on this task and invited state liaisons to participate.

2016 Meeting Dates:

The Council set the following meeting dates for next year:

- Monday, February 8, 2016 (in person)
- Friday, April 22, 2016 (videoconference)
- Friday, September 16, 2016 (in person)
- Friday, November 18, 2016 (videoconference)

New Council Chair:

James Trout made a motion to appoint Yvonne Wright as Acting Chair until her appointment is confirmed by the Senate. The Council unanimously voted to approve the motion.

MPACT Transition Summit and MO-YLF alumni involvement:

Dawn Evans announced that GCD staff and MO-YLF alumni will be involved in the MPACT “Tools for Life” Transition Summit on October 28, 2015 in Jefferson City.

Dawn encouraged Council members to contact her for alumni involvement in events around the state.

Public Comment:

Patty Ritchie, Public Policy Director with the National Association of Injured and Disabled Workers (NAIDW) stated that the ADA continues to fail certain individuals with disabilities. She further stated that reasonable accommodations are not provided to employees with disabilities and asked the Council Chair to review a sample accommodation policy that had formerly been posted on OA’s website.

Lunch recess was taken.

Presentation:

Wayne Crawford, Missouri Inclusive Housing Development Corporation (MO Housing) gave a presentation on housing. MO Housing’s mission is to assist agencies and individuals in the procurement of quality, affordable, universally designed housing. His goal is to connect the individuals who need housing with the appropriate resources by bringing together the disability support systems in Missouri. MHDC currently has 149,000 subsidized housing units with a 10% vacancy rate and no wait list.

Mr. Crawford asked the Governor’s Council on Disability to bring together the state departments to talk about housing issues and needs to help people with disabilities control the development of affordable and accessible housing.

There will be a conference on October 26 in St. Joseph with focus on the current state of safe, affordable, quality, universally designed housing in Northwest Missouri, collaboration between various agencies, and the development of housing teams to coordinate housing.

<http://meril.org/ahomeforeveryone/>

GCD Committee Reports:

Advocacy Committee: Ron Hack will schedule a committee meeting to work on the revision of the Strategic Plan.

Education Subcommittee (Joan Bergstrom): The Education Position Paper draft will be finalized on October 26th (conference call).

Executive Committee: The committee will meet on October 13th at 10 a.m. by conference call. No other committee reports.

Council Member Reports:

James Trout reported that he is working with the National Housing Trust to introduce some legislation this year in Missouri on removing a barrier that exists in low income housing tax credit statutes, to prevent developers, owners, from reinvesting in their property during that 15-year period, for example on energy efficiency.

Betty Davidson provided information about the 25th ADA Anniversary celebration in St. Louis on October 3rd at the Missouri History Museum. (<http://www.ada25stl.org/#!/event-info/c133m>)

On October 23-25, the Variety Children’s Theatre will present *Mary Poppins* at the Touhill Performing Arts Center, featuring students from the St. Louis Special School District.

Ron Hack reported that through the Money Follows the Person grant, his son, who has CP, was able to move into a group home and got accepted for a job as a people greeter at SAM's Club.

Old Business: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

The next regular Council meeting will be held **Friday, November 6, 2015** at 10 AM by videoconference in Jefferson City, Lee's Summit, Kirksville, and St. Charles.

Summary of Action Items:	Person Responsible:
Meet with Governor's Office to discuss Council membership	Yvonne Wright/Rob Honan
Update Indoor Air Quality Policy and post on website	Claudia Browner
Schedule Advocacy Committee meeting	Ron Hack

Minutes by Claudia Browner, Executive I
September 23, 2015