

# **Governor's Council on Disability**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **April 24, 2015**

**Council Members Present/Participating:**

Chuck Comstock, Betty Davidson, Ph.D., Ron Hack, Mary Ann Harter, DeAnna Noriega, Sue Orton, James Trout, Bob Wallace

**Council Members Not Present/Participating:**

Joan Bergstrom, Ed.D., Ed Duff, Mike Esser, Rep. Jeff Grisamore, Todd Mayfield, Derek Smith

**Department Liaisons:**

Bonnie Aaron	Department of Elementary and Secondary Education - DESE
Dee Ann Fuller	Department of Elementary and Secondary Education/Voc Rehab – DESE/VR
Bobbi Jo Garber	Department of Health and Senior Services - DHSS
Jonathan Hensley	Attorney General's Office – AGO
Julie Juergens	Department of Social Services - DSS
Steve Milburn	Department of Social Services - DSS
Dana Muessig	Department of Natural Resources - DNR
Sarah Parsons	Missouri Housing Development Commission - MHDC
Duane Shumate	Department of Mental Health – DMH/DDD
Casey Wasser	Department of Revenue - DOR
Jennifer Zamkus	Department of Corrections - DOC

**Guests:**

Misty Hill, DNR, Patricia Ritchie, NAIDW

**Staff:**

Robert Honan, Claudia Browner, Dawn Evans, Laura Mueth

**Real-Time Captioner:** Kim Pflieger-Schacht

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 February 9, 2015 and the agenda for the day.

**Report from Acting Chair James Trout:**

James Trout welcomed Rob Honan as the new Executive Director of the Governor's Council on Disability.

James will be a co-presenter on Universal Design at the Housing Summit in St. Louis on April 30.

James asked that the 2015 Council Committee roster be updated to restore the Finance Committee with Bob Wallace as the Chair under the Executive Committee.

**Report from Executive Director Rob Honan:**

- Rob summarized the ED report. GCD has spent about 69% of its FY15 budget.
- The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum has accepted 32 delegates for 2015.

- Rob has worked with the Commissioner's and Governor's offices to get permission to testify on disability-related legislation. Approval was granted to testify for informational purposes. GCD staff attended hearings on SB 322 (Raising asset limits for people with disabilities) and SB 174 (ABLE Act) and testified for informational purposes.
- GCD staff attended the ADA Legacy Bus Tour and Disability Rights Legislative Day at the capitol on March 31.
- The 2015 Inclusion Awards and Youth Leadership Award were presented at the Power Up conference on April 14.
- Rob attended 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Independent Living Center in Joplin. He also attended the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Disability Inclusion Summit hosted by the Greater Kansas City Business Leadership Network.

**Department Liaison Information:**

Bobbi Jo Garber (DHSS/DSDS) reported about two important pieces of legislation that will impact people with disabilities – SB 515 which requires emergency medical technicians, firefighters, and first responders to be mandatory reporters for in-home services client abuse or neglect, and HB 1090 which changes the laws regarding an electronic tracking system for certain home- and community-based providers.

Casey Wasser (DOR) – Introduced himself as the new state liaison for Department of Revenue. Casey reported about SB 254 which modifies provisions relating to license plates and adds physical therapists to the list of authorized health care practitioners who may issue a prescription for his or her patient to receive a disabled placard or license plate.

DeAnn Fuller (DESE/VR) – VR has implemented Project Search, a pre-vocational training for high school students, at Jefferson City High School and Lincoln University. VR is also sponsoring 13 delegates to attend the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum at \$1,500 per delegate.

Bonnie Aaron (DESE) – The new State Systemic Improvement Plan was submitted in March. MAP A testing for severely cognitively disabled students began this spring. Federal legislation on Every Child Achieves Act was voted out of committee.

Steve Milburn (DSS/FSD) – Attended for Valerie Howard. Ron Hack asked 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 replied that he would take the request to the MO Health Net division.

Duane Shumate (DMH/DD) – DD has started conducting on-site assessments as part of the Transition Plan to determine compliance with the 2014 Home and Community Based Waiver requirements. DMH consulted with the Governor's Office in an Op-Ed letter from Governor Nixon which appeared in the Springfield News Leader on the value of businesses hiring individuals with disabilities and the benefits businesses have experienced when creating a workforce which is reflective of their community. DD is working with a MACDDS and MASWM ad hoc team on employment future for individuals with disabilities in Missouri. Other participants of the ad hoc team are DESE, DD Council, People First of Missouri and VR. MO APSE Summit is July 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> in Columbia, MO at Stoney Creek Inn.

Sarah Parsons (MHDC) – On April 17, MHDC took the Qualified Allocation Plan to the Commission for approval. Sarah thanked James Trout and Wayne Crawford for their work on the Missouri UD criteria.

Julie Juergens (DSS/MFP) – Under the Money Follows the Person grant, 61 individuals have transitioned into the community in 2015. The goal for the year is 208 individuals. Since inception of the grant, a total of 1,073 individuals have transitioned; 200 cases are currently pending, for the most part due to lack of housing. MFP is working with Wayne Crawford and UMKC to address the housing needs. A sustainability plan is due April 30 and has to be approved by CMS in order to continue to receive funding through 2020. Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. has recognized Missouri as one of the top five states for good practices and outcomes in transitioning the aged and people with physical disabilities into the communities.

Julie stated that HB 343 and SB 380 both establish a committee to assess the continuation of the Money Follows the Person program after the grant ends. MFP is waiting to see if either bill gets passed this session.

Dana Muessig (DNR) – About 300 people attended DNR's 18<sup>th</sup> Multicultural Affairs conference which focused on disabilities, on March 26 in Jefferson City. Former GCD executive director Linda Baker was one of the presenters.

**Old Business:**

A poll was conducted to ask current Council members about their continued commitment to serve on the Council. All current members are interested in continuing to serve on the Council except for Mike Esser and Derek Smith. GCD staff was unable to reach Ed Duff who has been inactive since 2011. James Trout asked Rob to contact the Governor's office to request that the six Council vacancies be filled and those who no longer want to serve be replaced.

**Public Comment:**

None

Lunch recess was taken.

**GCD Committee Reports:**

Advocacy Committee: Ron Hack will schedule a committee meeting prior to the next Council meeting to discuss committee goals.

Executive Committee: Committee meeting will be scheduled in the next couple of weeks.

Programs Committee: James asked that the Council send a letter to the MHDC Housing Commissioners in May, asking that UD criteria be accepted for all new housing developments.

No other committee reports.

**Council Member Reports:**

Chuck Comstock – The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Disability Awareness conference will be held in Kirksville in October. This year's theme is "A good life is...". The 12-week Project STIR (Steps Toward Independence and Responsibility) program continues in the 14 counties served by the Kirksville Regional Office.

DeAnna Noriega participated in the Disability Rights Legislative Day at the capitol on March 31. As the Chair of the Transportation Subcommittee, she is investigating available transportation in Missouri and recommended posting available transportation services on the Disability Web Portal.

Betty Davidson, Ph.D. announced that the Children's Vision Summit will be held May 18 in Columbia. She also attended the Power Up conference and complimented GCD staff on their awards presentation.

Sue Orton attended an Independent Living webinar on Universal Design. Sue serves on the St. Louis County Commission on Disabilities, and the AARP's age-friendly community task force to address safe neighborhoods and housing.

Mary Ann Harter asked for clarification on her role as Chair of the Employment Subcommittee. Ron Hack and Mary Ann will set up meeting by conference call to discuss.

**New Business:** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

The next regular Council meeting will be held **Friday, September 18, 2015** at 10 AM in room 315 of the Governor's Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City.

<b>Summary of Action Items:</b>	<b>Person Responsible:</b>
Send letter to MHDC Housing Commissioners in May	Rob Honan/James Trout
Schedule committee meetings	Committee Chairs
Contact Governor's Office to request Council appointments	Rob Honan

Minutes by Claudia Browner, Executive I  
April 29, 2015