

Governor's Council on Disability

Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2013

Council Members Present/Participating:

Joan Bergstrom, Ed.D., Chuck Comstock, Betty Davidson, Ph.D., Rep. Jeff Grisamore, Ron Hack, Todd Mayfield, Teri Miller, DeAnna Noriega, Sue Orton, Derek Smith, James Trout, Bob Wallace

Council Members Not Present/Participating:

Ed Duff, Mike Esser, Mary Ann Harter

Department Liaisons:

Gena Ahlers	Department of Revenue – DOR
Ron Berg	Department of Mental Health – DMH/DD
Kristin Funk	Department of Economic Development – DED/DWD
Daniel Jacob	Attorney General's Office - AGO
Lynette Ricks	Office of State Courts Administrator – OSCA

Guests:

Rachel Baskerville, GCD intern
Haley Krentz, DMH intern

Staff:

Linda Baker, Claudia Browner, Dawn Evans, Laura Mueth

Real Time Captioner: Deb Reithmeyer

Acting Chair James Trout called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. With twelve (12) 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 November 16 and the agenda for the day.

Report from Acting Chair James Trout:

- James is working with the UD Coalition in Columbia on developing training and continued education on universal design. The coalition is working on a cost/benefit analysis and the long-term benefits of aging in place.
- House Speaker Tim Jones has established the House Standing Committee on Children, Families, and People with Disabilities, with Rep. Jeff Grisamore as the Committee Chair.
- The Council unanimously approved the Universal Design letter that addresses the need for MLS listings to include UD features. The letter and a one-page fact sheet about Universal Design will be sent to REALTORS® Associations throughout Missouri.

Report from Executive Director Linda Baker:

- Linda introduced GCD intern Rachel Baskerville.
- Linda summarized her ED report. GCD has spent about 46% of its FY13 budget.
- The Inclusion Awards will be presented at the Power Up conference on April 16. The winner is Jaime Janes, Kirksville RIII Schools, and the Honorable Mention goes to Michelle Zvanut, Boone Hospital Center.

- Registration numbers for the LEP webcasts are up from last year. GCD is offering five webcasts (Level 1 and 2) and five LEP training sessions at the capitol.
- GCD is getting ready for this year's Missouri Youth Leadership Forum. Linda thanked Edward Jones (Mike Esser) for their generous contribution of \$5,000 to the Forum. GCD and SIL are working on raising funds for the program.

Department Liaison Information:

Gena Ahlers (DOR) – Linda thanked Gena for her assistance with calls regarding accessible parking placards and hang tags.

Ron Berg (DMH/DD) – Will provide presentation at the Power Up conference about the availability of Assistive Technology through the waiver programs. 780 individuals are participating in the waiver for self-directed consumer support services. The comprehensive waiver currently serves 8,275 individuals; an amendment to add 150 slots for residential services has been submitted. The autism waiver serves 175 individuals. The Sarah Lopez waiver for children recently received appropriation to fund additional slots and can now serve 366 children. The Partnership for Hope waiver is now offered in 95 counties in Missouri and includes dental services.

Lynette Ricks (OSCA) – Assists courts that are remodeling or building to assure accessibility is according to ADA standards. She is working with the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to address complaints about courts not providing ASL interpreters. Her office is working on installing software for video interpreting as an accommodation for court hearings.

Kristin Funk (DED/DWD) – DWD and the career centers are participating in the statewide Show-me Careers Consortium, a grant that provides funding to eight pilot communities in Missouri to work with individuals with developmental disabilities ages 16-30 on gaining employment. DWD will be participating in the grant's Business Roundtable in February to gain more business involvement for the program. The Centers for Independent Living will be providing statewide training on disability awareness for DWD staff.

Daniel Jacob (AGO) – AGO is still working on accessible parking PSA, which is supposed to be filmed this spring. Attended Universal Design coalition meeting and is now considering making Universal Design training a required training as part of the professional licensing for architectural, engineering, and other professionals.

Public Comment: None.

GCD Committee Reports:

Programs Committee (James Trout reporting): There is growing support for the Universal Design initiative from an increasing number of stakeholders. He looks forward to seeing more reports about successful marketing for this initiative throughout the year.

Transportation Subcommittee (Teri Miller reporting): Teri thanked the Council for the letter of support for the transportation grant which will serve St. Charles, Lincoln, and Warren counties, with possible expansion to Jefferson and Franklin counties.

James Trout asked the Council members to look at their committee membership and volunteer for additional committee positions.

New Business:

The Governor's Committee to End Homelessness has asked the Governor's Council on Disability for their support by signing their discharge policy. The Council asked Linda Baker to provide more information for discussion at the next meeting.

Council members discussed the Council membership status. There are currently five vacancies on the Council. It was decided that GCD staff would put together a map showing the areas represented by the current Council members, and the expiration dates of their terms, which will be used to actively recruit applicants and work with the chair of gubernatorial appointments and the Boards and Commissions office to get the vacancies filled. A link to the boards and commissions application page will be posted on GCD's website.

Teri Miller provided the Council with handouts about the Affordable Care Act for people with disabilities and continued community support.

Old Business: None

Legislative Update:

Representative Jeff Grisamore reported that he was appointed as chair of the House Standing Committee on Children, Families and People with Disabilities. There are twelve members on the committee. The disability omnibus bill will be filed again this year. Other bill topics include the Medicaid expansion to cover able bodied and working poor and take eligibility from 85% to 130% of the federal poverty level. Rep. Grisamore also serves on the appropriation committee for DHSS, DMH, and Social Services.

Lunch recess was taken.

Presentation:

Judy Parker gave a presentation about the Affordable Care Act. Ms. Parker represents the Missouri Alliance for Retired Americans, a non-profit, non-partisan organization with 86,000 members in Missouri. Informational handouts were provided to participants. Ms. Parker highlighted some of the changes under the Affordable Care Act:

- Enforcement powers are given to ombudsmen
- Home health & long-term care staff will be required to be trained and paid at least minimum wage
- Funding will be increased for healthcare fraud and abuse investigations
- Insurances will not be able to drop patients
- Annual or lifetime coverage limits will be banned
- Pre-existing condition clauses for children will be eliminated
- Children can remain on parents' policy until age 26

More information is available at www.healthreform.kff.org or www.mffh.org.

Council member reports:

James Trout – Indoor Air Quality is becoming a healthcare issue. Community Action Agency in St. Louis will be testing homes for pollution as a cause of illness.

Ron Hack intends to schedule a meeting for the Advocacy Committee.

Sue Orton announced that March 27 will be Brain Injury Awareness Day at the capitol.

Bob Wallace announced that Giant Steps in St. Louis will be hosting a trivia night fundraiser February 9.

DeAnna Noriega provides independent living services for people who are blind or have low vision; serves on the planning committee for the Disability Rights Legislative Day; serves on the Wolfner Advisory Council; and is Vice President of the Missouri Council for the Blind. MO Council for the Blind will host telephone forums to discuss issues that are important to visually impaired individuals without computer access.

Derek Smith is in his last semester of law school. He'll compete in the Winter Iowa Games in wheelchair basketball. The athletes will be bringing their sport chairs to the law school as part of the ADA diversity celebration day.

Chuck Comstock is working on Project STIR classes for all 14 counties served by the Kirksville Regional Office. Planning is underway for the 5th Annual disAbility Awareness Day in October. His office also sponsors an art contest for children and adults called "The Artist in You".

Betty Davidson, Ph.D. reported that the Special School District hosted an afterschool Braille literacy event in January, celebrating the birthday of Louis Braille.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

The next regular Council meeting will be held **Thursday, April 18, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. by videoconference in Jefferson City, Kirksville, Lee's Summit, and St. Louis**

Summary of Action Items:	Person Responsible:
Send Universal Design letter to REALTORS® Associations in Missouri	Claudia Browner
Send Governor's Committee to End Homelessness discharge policy to Council members for discussion at next meeting	Linda Baker
Put together Council membership map. Post link to boards & commissions application on GCD website	Claudia Browner
Send updated list of Council committees to Council members.	Claudia Browner