

# **Governor's Council on Disability Meeting Minutes November 16, 2012**

## **Council Members Present/Participating:**

Joan Bergstrom, Ed.D., Chuck Comstock, Betty Davidson, Ph.D., Rep. Jeff Grisamore, Mary Ann Harter, Todd Mayfield, Teri Miller, DeAnna Noriega, Sue Orton, James Trout

## **Council Members Not Present/Participating:**

Ed Duff, Mike Esser, Ron Hack, Derek Smith, Bob Wallace

## **Department Liaisons:**

Kristin Funk	Department of Economic Development – DED/DWD
Bobbi Jo Garber	Department of Health & Senior Services – DHSS
Daniel Jacob	Attorney General's Office - AGO
Dr. Crystal Kroner	Department of Higher Education - DHE
Dorothy Parks	Department of Elementary & Secondary Education – DESE/VR
Michele Radney	Department of Natural Resources – DNR
Robin Rust	Department of Mental Health – DMH/DD
Mary Wood	Department of Elementary & Secondary Education - DESE

## **Guests:**

Elijah Buchholz, Director, Division of Deaf Services, DMH  
Jessica Harris, MU Student

## **Staff:**

Linda Baker, Claudia Browner, Dawn Evans, Laura Mueth

## **Real Time Captioner:** Chris (Hear Ink)

Acting Chair James Trout called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. With ten (10) Council members in attendance, there was a quorum for the meeting. Introductions followed.

## **Approval of agenda and minutes:**

The Council members unanimously approved the amended meeting minutes for September 21 and the agenda for the day.

## **Report from Acting Chair James Trout:**

- James has joined the City Arch River 2015 project planning group in St. Louis, which is in charge of redesigning the Arch grounds; Universal design is a major component in the new design.
- The Universal Design letter discussed at the September meeting has been drafted and will be finalized and brought up for vote at the meeting in February.
- The national Universal Design Summit 5 will be held May 6-9, 2013 in St. Louis.
- Erv Switzer has resigned from the Council. Nominations for his position as Chair of the Advocacy Committee will be discussed under new business.

## **Report from Executive Director Linda Baker:**

- Linda summarized her ED report. GCD has spent about 30% of its FY13 budget.
- Deadline for submitting nominations for the 2012 Inclusion Award is November 30, 2012.

- October was Disability History Awareness month in Missouri. GCD had a display in the Truman building for the entire month. Several educators contacted GCD for information and resources.
- The Legislative Education Project (LEP) registration information has been posted on GCD's website. Five webcasts (three Level 1 and two Level 2) and five training sessions at the capitol are currently planned.
- GCD has sent out announcements about the 2013 Missouri Youth Leadership Forum and is recruiting delegates for the event. Detailed information and the application are on GCD's website at <http://disability.mo.gov/gcd/ylf.htm>
- Business Leadership Networks: MOBLN (St. Louis) is offering scholarships for students with disabilities from the St. Louis area. GKCBLN (Kansas City) presented champions awards to UMB Financial Corporation and City Wide Maintenance.

### **Department Liaison Information:**

Dr. Crystal Kroner (DHE) – Common course state standards have been adopted in Missouri. DHE received NGA grant to facilitate statewide meetings with faculty members and stakeholders. Initiatives will be posted on web within the next few weeks.

Kristin Funk (DED/DWD) – Provided handout about the Missouri Career Centers. DWD participated in a Disability Mentoring Day event on October 29 in Kansas City, which was attended by more than 100 people with disabilities. DWD is partnering with CILs and VR to develop statewide training for staff and career centers.

Dorothy Parks (DESE-VR) – VR is currently working on its annual report which will be published online in February.

Daniel Jacob (AGO) – Attended ADA conference in October. AGO is still working on accessible parking PSA, which should be ready by next year. Several states received complaints about inaccessible lottery vending stations; Missouri is beginning to address this issue.

Bobbi Jo Garber (DHSS) – Aged and Disabled waiver was renewed by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid; adult day healthcare services were added. Adult daycare waiver for ages 63 and under was also approved to begin in January. There's no wait list for either waiver. DHSS is currently in the process of renewing the independent living waiver for consumer directed services provided by Centers for Independent Living.

Robin Rust (DMH/DD) – The Partnership for Hope waiver now covers 95 counties and the city of St. Louis. The most recent waiver amendment will be adding additional counties including Nodaway, and possibly others.

### **Old Business:**

The Universal Design letter discussed at the September meeting will be revised by the Advocacy and Housing Committees prior to the February Council meeting. The letter addresses the need for MLS listings to include UD features.

**Legislative Update:**

Representative Jeff Grisamore gave an update about legislative issues of the last session and informed the Council that the House Standing Committee on Disability Services may not get reinstated. The Council decided to send a letter to the legislative leadership requesting the reappointment of this committee before December 1.

**Public Comment:** None.

**GCD Committee Reports:**

Transportation Subcommittee (Teri Miller reporting):

Delta Center for Independent Living's Mobility Management group continues to work on developing accessible transportation for people with disabilities and the elderly in small, rural, and urban environments. The group worked with federal Region 7 HR person to develop a vision and mission statement and strategic plan which will be voted on at the December 11 meeting.

**Council member reports:**

Sue Orton – The Missouri Brain Injury Association (MO-BIA) conference held in October was very successful. MO-BIA will host an open house and holiday party at its new location on December 8.

Joan Bergstrom, Ed.D. – Presented at bi-state autism conference in Kansas City. Wrote an educational guide about interacting with students with autism called *Students with Autism – A Guidebook for MCC Faculty and Staff*.

Chuck Comstock – About 200 individuals attended the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Disability Awareness Day in Kirksville in October, which focused on employment, housing, and self-determination. DMH offers Project STIR (Steps Toward Independence and Responsibility), an 8-week course training people with intellectual disabilities on how to become better self-advocates.

Todd Mayfield – DESE is proposing to change Part C of the IDEA Birth to Three First Steps program, which would create a gap in service for children with disabilities whose third birthday is after April 1. The deadline for comments on the proposed change has been extended until November 30<sup>th</sup>. Parents of children who would be affected by the removal of the “April exception” have the opportunity to make comments or voice their concerns.

DeAnna Noriega – More than 200 people with disabilities attended a meeting with Governor Nixon on October 31 at the ARC in Columbia. Gov. Nixon discussed healthcare for children on the autism spectrum and encouraged the disability community to work and stand together on disability issues. DeAnna announced her reelection as the vice president of the Missouri Council for the Blind and appointment as secretary of the Tiger Council of the Blind.

Lunch recess was taken.

**New Business:**

Acting Chair James Trout asked for a volunteer to research the impact of “Obama Care” for the next meeting. Teri Miller offered to provide a report at the February meeting.

The Council unanimously voted to issue a letter of support to the assembly leadership asking to preserve the Special Standing Committee on Disability Services.

James Trout asked for nominations to fill the Chair of the Advocacy Committee vacancy. Ron Hack was nominated but was not in attendance at the meeting to accept his nomination.

**Presentation:**

Stephen Barr, Assistant Commissioner, and Mary Corey, Director of Data, with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education gave a presentation on high school students with disabilities and provided statistics regarding graduation rates, percentage of students with autism, employment at sheltered workshops, transition into higher education institutions, and the workforce. The presentation also included a listing of agencies that provide transition services. A handout with detailed information was provided to the attendees.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

The next regular Council meeting will be held **Monday, February 4, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 315 at the Governor's Office Building, 200 Madison, Jefferson City**

<b>Summary of Action Items:</b>	<b>Person Responsible:</b>
Send letter to legislative leadership requesting reappointment of Special House Standing Committee on Disability Services	James Trout/Linda Baker
Edit and finalize draft Universal Design letter for February Council meeting	Advocacy Committee and Housing Subcommittee

Minutes by Claudia Browner, Executive I  
November 20, 2012