

OREGON DISABILITIES COMMISSION

Thursday • September 3, 2009 • 1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Large Conference Room • DHS Cherry Ave. Building • 3420 Cherry Ave. NE Salem.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Frank Armstrong
Ann Balzell (By
phone)
Janet Campbell
Judith Cunio
Cindy Helvington

Marcie Ingledue
Bill Lynch
Ruth McEwen
Bob Pope
Martha Simpson

Sherry Stock (By
phone)
Frank Synoground
Tina Treasure (By
Phone)

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Bill Wellard

GUESTS:

Ted Wenk (By phone)

STAFF PRESENT:

Max Brown, Advocacy Coordinator
Kelsi Eisele, Administrative Staff
Karen Mainzer, Intergovernmental Relations Liaison

AGENDA ITEMS:

CALL ALL TO ORDER

- Introductions
- Review and Approval of Agenda
- Review and Approval of Minutes
- Updates/Announcements

CURRENT ISSUES

- Legislative Session Wrap-Up
 - Discussion of Bills & Issue Areas
 - Review & Recommendations on Process
- Department of Administrative Services – Accommodation Policy

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MEMBERSHIP

COMMISSION BUSINESS

- Report to the Governor – Recommendations and Future Planning
- Review Public Comments
- Employer Awards Subcommittee Planning
- EPD Subcommittee
- Action Items - Staff

LIAISON REPORTS (SELECTED)

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURN

CALL TO ORDER

Bill Lynch called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

Introductions

Commission members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Members reviewed the agenda. Jan Campbell requested that the membership agenda item be discussed before 2pm and to add to the agenda discussion on disability accessibility at the Oregon State Fair. Frank Synoground would like to add accessibility program to the agenda.

Motion: Frank Armstrong moved to accept the agenda with additions. Jan Campbell seconded the motion.

Vote: 12-0-0-2

Yeas: Armstrong, Campbell, Cunio, Helvington, Ingledue, Lynch, McEwen, Pope, Simpson, Stock, Synoground, Treasure

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Excused: Balzell, Wellard

Motion carried.

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Review and Approval of Minutes

Members reviewed and approved the minutes as presented.

Motion: Judy Cunio moved to accept the minutes as presented. Frank Armstrong seconded the motion.

Vote: 11-0-1-2

Yeas: Armstrong, Campbell, Cunio, Helvington, Ingledue, Lynch, McEwen, Pope, Simpson, Stock, Treasure

Nays: 0

Abstentions: Synoground

Excused: Balzell, Wellard

Motion carried.

Updates/Announcements

- Bill Lynch reported that Bill Wellard will be resigning from the commission and will help find a replacement.
- Judy Cunio reported that in October the first issue with the new editor of The People First Connection magazine will be out. The People First Connection consists of articles that are written by self-advocates and shared all over the world.

CURRENT ISSUES

Legislative Session Wrap-Up

Max Brown discussed bills and issue areas. Max reported on: Employment, Transportation, Americans with Disabilities Act, Long-Term Services and Supports, Including Community Mental Health, Health Care, Including Medicaid-Covered Services and Health Care Reform and Protective Services.

Commission members gave recommendations:

- Ruth McEwen recommends that the Employed Persons with Disabilities Subcommittee continue.

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- Frank Armstrong recommends that all hotels and motels have a loop system. Frank shared the Attorney General's Office number of 503-727-1000.
- Frank Armstrong suggested strategizing for the next legislative session by informing all legislatures about the existence of the Oregon Disabilities Commission. The commission would like to work on any issues legislators have regarding impacts to people with disabilities.
- Bill Lynch suggested increasing state leadership in employment of people with disabilities in State Government.
- Bill Lynch announced that next year will be the 20th anniversary of the ADA and would like the commission to recognize the anniversary along with the Governor.
- ODC is supportive of HB 2600, but wants to suggest some changes to the bill. Some accommodations, which are lower cost and more effective, could make this a stronger bill (such as lower beds).
- Ruth McEwen would like to recommend for the future to explain the difference between the two permits for transportation. Ann Balzell recommends Oregonians to be educated on the proper use of the permits and how it affects those who use those parking spots.
- Judy Cunio would like to know if the United Nations Disability Treaty has any impact on the ADA.
- Frank Armstrong reported on how the cigarette tax funds are dispersed. Frank recommend to distribute moneys in the counties where there are larger senior populations and not by which county has the largest general population.

Karen Mainzer reported that the Oregon Project Independence (OPI) Budget Note notice will be out Tuesday and there will be an invite via email to attend the discussion. Ruth McEwen suggested that ODC voice concerns to OPI and wants people to know that continued in home services for people with disabilities needs to be a priority. Ruth shared that there is a higher percentage of people with disabilities receiving in home care compared to those who receive services for seniors. Bill Lynch would like the advocates involved in the discussion of possible changes to OPI so nothing is missed.

Action Item: Max Brown will draft a letter and brochure to be handed out to legislators along with contact information of ODC members.

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Action Item: Karen Mainzer will contact legislators as to where they stand with HB 2600.

Action Item: Bill Lynch suggested coming up with questions for the OPI Budget Note discussion.

Action Item: Karen Mainzer will bring up HB 2883 at next GCSS meeting.

Department of Administrative Services (DAS) – Accommodation Policy

Max Brown discussed the DAS Accommodation Policy. Max explained that at the last ODC Exec Committee meeting this was brought up with employment issues and with the Employment Disability Act. Ruth McEwen expressed that this is a great idea and glad that this is moving forward.

MEMBERSHIP

Jan Campbell reported that she interviewed Ted Wenk and gave a brief overview of Ted's background.

Motion: Jan Campbell made a motion to recommend Ted Wenk to the Governors office to become a member of the Oregon Disability Commission. Ruth McEwen seconds the motion.

Vote: 13-0-0-1

Yeas: Armstrong, Balzell, Campbell, Cunio, Helvington, Ingledue, Lynch, McEwen, Pope, Simpson, Stock, Synoground, Treasure

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Excused: Wellard

Motion carried.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

Report to the Governor – Recommendations & Future Planning

Bill Lynch discussed the draft ODC report to the governor. Bill suggested stating the time period this report covers. Additions that need to be added to the report are:

- Ruth McEwen would like more emphasis in how membership reflects cross disabilities and to include a roster of the ODC members at the end of the report.
- Jan Campbell suggested including long term care and community base service priorities.
- Bill Lynch would like to attach the members liaison list and to have the report turned in by the end of the year.
- Bill Lynch would like to address the accessibility to the master plan for the State Capitol remodel and address accessibility issues.

Bob Pope expressed his concerns that the deaf and hard of hearing population is not being heard. Bob shared an incident from a hearing impaired gentleman who toured the City of Dallas for Oregon's 150 years and found that the public buildings there are not ADA compliant and found it very hard to get around without a guide.

Jan Campbell suggested the executive committee work on the draft report to the Governor at the next executive meeting. The letter will then be sent to the full commission by email to review and then finalize at the November meeting.

Review Public Comments

Bill Lynch reviewed the public comments with the commission from the June 25th meeting. Jan Campbell felt that those that spoke at the conference didn't have any action items but gave comments.

Employer Awards Subcommittee Planning

Bill Lynch discussed the employer recognition program. Jan Campbell and/or Bill Lynch will contact Lucy to set up a meeting date. Bill suggested having just one employer award for next year.

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EPD Subcommittee

Bill Lynch reported on EPD and where it is going. Max Brown discussed spending down assets and data requests. Bill reported that Cathy Cooper suggested at the last meeting that issues should be identified, then priorities the issues, and finally have SPD identify the best resources to address the issues.

Jan Campbell reminded the commission that Scott Lay passed away and suggested sending a card to his wife Shawn.

Action Item: Tina Treasure will address the card from the commission to Scott Lay's wife and will include in the card that ODC will continue to grow the programs, including the Employed Persons with Disability (EPD) program, that Scott helped develop and implement.

Action Items - Staff

Bill Lynch discussed action items from the last meeting with the commission.

LIAISON REPORTS (SELECTED)

- Judy Cunio reported on the Home Care Commission. The director of the commission, Cheryl Sanders, said they would like to begin a scholarship fund for college students who are paraplegic or may open it up to different disabilities.
- Judy Cunio reported on the STEPS Program. The STEPS program was housed at the Oregon State Independent Living Council (SILC) but will now move over to the Home Care Commission.
- Ruth McEwen reported that she has been attending the Rules Advisory Committee meetings and involved with making rule changes for DMAP.

Action Item: Bill Lynch would like staff to include a liaison roster in the meeting packets.

MEMBER ITEMS

Sherry Stock reported that SB 381 was passed and is a cross disabilities bill.

Jan Campbell reported on her concern for disabled parking at the Oregon State Fair. Jan reported that there are many disabled parking spots but no access aisles. Jan reported that the fair has now allowed personal assistants to enter the fair for free. Jan reported that the state fair has remodeled restrooms for people with disabilities and there are now areas where there is a quiet time booth for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Judy Cunio gave a compliment to those at the State Fair for being accommodating with helping her on and off rides. Jan also voiced her concern for the war veterans with the low flying helicopter rides at the fair. Karen Mainzer reported that the helicopter riders are for this year only for Oregon's 150th celebration and the fair has been notified of concerns from near by neighbors. Bill Lynch asked find those in charge of the state fair attend a commission meeting to discuss other possible ideas as to how to make the fair more accessible for people with disabilities.

Action Item: Bill Lynch asked staff to invite those who organize the state fair at the November meeting.

Frank Synaground reported on program accessibility. The Employment department recently purchased a program that is an assessment tool. It is a computer base program but is not accessible to everyone. Bill Lynch suggested that this maybe something that should be brought to the governors attention.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The next full commission meeting will be held November 5th. Bill Lynch discussed the meeting schedule for next year and ODC will continue to meet on the first Thursday of every other month. Bill Lynch suggested finding other possible meeting sites down town such as:

- Department of Human Services, Summer Street
- Church Street (but has parking issues)

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- Public Service Building A & B

Action Item: Staff will look into other possible meeting sites for ODC full commission meetings and report back to Bill Lynch.

Bill Lynch asked to include planning for the February session at the November 5th meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:40 p.m.