

OREGON DISABILITIES COMMISSION

Tuesday • September 30, 2008 • 9:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Large Conference Room • DHS Cherry Ave. Office • 3420 Cherry Ave., NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Frank Armstrong

Ann Balzell

Janet Campbell

Judith Cunio

Marcie Ingledue

Bill Lynch

Ruth McEwen

Martha Simpson

Frank Synoground

Bill Wellard

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Cindy Helvington

Kedma Ough

Sherry Stock

Tina Treasure

GUESTS:

Tim Baxter

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS:

Bob Pope

STAFF PRESENT:

Max Brown, Advocacy Coordinator

Kelsi Eisele, Administrative Staff

Karen Mainzer, Intergovernmental Relations Liaison

Dawn Rustrum, Advocacy Coordinator

AGENDA ITEMS:

Call to Order

- Introductions
- Review and Approval of Agenda
- Review and Approval of Minutes

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- Updates/Announcements

READ/DISCUSS ODC MISSION & VALUES

TEAM BUILDING EXERCISE AND GROUND RULES

CAPACITY & RESOURCES: Getting Real About What We Can Take On

- ODC Budget
- Staff Time Limitations
- Commissioner Workloads

LONG RANGE GOALS & SHORT TERM STRATEGIES

- Review list of Potential Issues
- What're our criteria for deciding priorities
- What's missing from the list

PRIORITIZE GOALS & ISSUES

- Agree on process for prioritizing
- Prioritize

ODC ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

- What committees/workgroups do we need to accomplish or work
- Form committees/workgroup

STRATEGIC PLANNING

- For each goal/priority, establish timelines (long term goals/short term strategies)
- Make committee/workgroup assignments

RETREAT EVALUATION & FINAL THOUGHTS

ADJOURN

CALL TO ORDER

Bill Lynch called the meeting to order at 9:06A.M.

Introductions

Commission members, staff, prospective members, and guests introduced themselves.

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Review and Approval of Agenda

Bill Lynch moved the team building exercise to after lunch.

Members reviewed and approved the agenda as corrected.

Motion: Jan Campbell moved to accept the agenda as corrected. Judy Cunio seconded the motion.

Vote: 9-0-0-5

Yeas: Armstrong, Balzell, Campbell, Cunio, Lynch, McEwen, Simpson, Synoground, Wellard

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Excused: Helvington, Ough, Stock, Treasure, Ingledue

Motion carried.

Updates/Announcements

- Frank Armstrong reported on a discussion with Jean Cowan on fines for disabled parking and how the money could be used for disability programs.
- Judy Cunio reported on a project through SPD called Restructuring Budgets Assessments and Rates (ReBAR). For everyone who is receiving 24 hour services, they are going to be assessed to figure out how much it costs for the services that they need. Judy discussed her experience with the program. Jan Campbell questioned if individuals were worried about losing services with this new process. Bill Lynch replied that they look at support needs and match it to a budget for the individual – many people may get more because of the evaluation of support needs. Bob Pope expressed a concern for those that are deaf and have a hard time communicating and getting the services they need. Judy Cunio expressed the same concern about the program and was assured that they would make every effort to accommodate to make sure needs are being met.
- Ruth McEwen reported the Durable Medical Equipment Program is meeting this Thursday. They are going to talk about the new program called On The Move In Oregon.
- Ruth McEwen reported on the Capitol open house October 16th from 11-1PM to show off completed portion of the restoration project.

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- Jan reported that Scott Lay, who has been a past chair of the commission, has a brain tumor and just received surgery. Jan will send Scott a card on behalf of the commission.

READ/DISCUSS ODC MISSION & VALUES

Reviewed mission purpose and values.

TEAM BUILDING EXERISE & GROUND RULES

Ground Rules

- Respect
- Cell phones turned off or on vibrate
- Raise hands
- Announce your name before speaking
- Breaks as you need
- Have fun
- Use the verbiage “People with disabilities”

COMMISSION BUISNESS

Review and Approval of Minutes

Ruth asked for clarification on page six regarding the Real Choice Grant and Max suggested revising the language around having a representative on the Grant’s advisory board.

Motion: Frank Armstrong moved that the minutes be approved as corrected. Bill Wellard seconded the motion.

Vote: 9-0-0-5

Yeas: Armstrong, Balzell, Campbell, Cunio, Lynch, McEwen, Simpson, Synoground, Wellard

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Excused: Helvington, Ough, Stock, Treasure, Ingledue

Motion carried.

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Other Business

Ruth discussed the Key Performance Measures (KPMs). Her concern is that KPM #1 is not applied to people with disabilities or people with physical disabilities. People with disabilities are not mentioned in the bench marks. Ruth would like the commission to revisit at goals and strategies. Max talked about the issues with the KPM – it focuses on all seniors, but there were some methodological barriers defining people with disabilities in the general population. Frank A. mentioned that the recent ODOT report used one method, and Max will look into it when the report is officially released.

Bill Lynch reported on a letter he sent to James Toews regarding PDAC but James has not responded. If there is no response from James in the next few weeks then the commission would like to send a letter to Bruce Goldberg. Karen Mainzer expressed that she will meet with James Toews next week and get back to Bill Lynch in two weeks about PDAC.

Motion: Jan Campbell moved that James has two weeks to respond to Bill Lynch and if Bill does not hear back then a letter will be sent to Dr. Golburg the first of November. Ruth McEwen second the motion.

Vote: 7-0-2-5

Yeas: Balzell, Campbell, Lynch, McEwen, Simpson, Synoground, Wellard

Nays: 0

Abstentions: Armstrong, Cunio

Excused: Helvington, Ough, Stock, Treasure, Ingledue

Motion carried.

Discussion: Frank Synoground discussed the consideration of not making the letter sound threatening. Bill thought the letter should let James know the commission's intent of the next step if he does not respond.

Discussion: Ruth suggested that before letters go out on behalf of the commission that everyone receives a copy.

Motion: Martha Simpson makes a motion that if a letter is drafted on behalf of the commission that the commission receives a copy before it is sent out. Ann Balzell second the motion.

Vote: 9-0-0-5

Yeas: Armstrong, Balzell, Campbell, Cunio, Lynch, McEwen, Simpson, Synoground, Wellard

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Excused: Helvington, Ough, Stock, Treasure, Ingledue

Motion carried.

Jan Campbell would like follow up with the letter regarding the Mega Disabilities Conference. Bill Lynch volunteered to draft the letter for the commission.

Correction to the minutes on page 4 motion on National Counsel on Disabilities (Correction to the minutes).

Action Item: Ask Tina to report on National Counsel on Disabilities when she gets here.

Commission discussion on American Disabilities Restoration Act. Bob Joondeph said he would send staff the legislative concept for the 2009 bill that they will be introducing. Max Brown has forwarded the information onto commission this last July.

Action Item: Max Brown is researching through the State Library to see if there are any other groups or political entities that have a statutory mandate for ODC participation besides the Homecare Commission.

ODC Applicant

Bob Pope briefly discussed his experience working with people with disabilities and feels that his work is not done. He has been very involved with advocacy work throughout his life.

Motion: Ruth McEwen moved for ODC to recommend Bob Pope as a commissioner to the Governor's Office. Frank Armstrong seconded the motion.

Vote: 9-0-0-5

Yeas: Armstrong, Balzell, Campbell, Cunio, Lynch, McEwen, Simpson, Synoground, Wellard

Nays: 0

Abstentions: 0

Excused: Helvington, Ough, Stock, Treasure, Ingledue

Motion carried.

CAPACITY & RESOURCES: GETTING REAL ABOUT WHAT WE CAN TAKE ON

ODC Budget

Max Brown reported that currently there is not a budget for ODC. The operations from this commission will come through SPD Administrations budget and will be paying the expenditures for the commission. If there is something that requires the commission to spend money on Max will be happy to check with Karen Mainzer or Cathy Cooper to see how SPD can make things happen. Requests that forward the commission's statutory mission will likely be approved.

Staff Time Limitations

Max Brown reported on staffing. Max is the primary commission coordinator for ODC and Dawn Rustrum is the primary coordinator for Governors Commission for Senior Services. Currently the two are cross training so that they can fill in for one another when needed. In January when the Legislature is in session, it is going to be tight times for staff with legislation analysis work. More than 50% of Max's time is restricted to legislation work and special projects. Max is working on crossing the legislation and the commission work in his position by reading bills for the department and reporting to ODC regarding bills that pertain to people with disabilities. Staff will provide input on pending legislation to the commission.

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Commissioner Workloads

Bill shared he runs into scheduling conflicts by being involved in his day to day operations and has limited time as to what extra he can take on for ODC.

Martha Simpson shared her difficulty for traveling. Jan Campbell discussed ways the commission could participate when not able to attend and see how that would work for everyone. She suggested video conferencing as a one solution.

Ann Balzell expressed the importance of having two representatives to a group so there is always someone attending the meetings who will report back to the commission. Dawn Rustrum reported the importance of having a liaison link from the other group as well instead of someone from the outside so the two commissions can work together and provide updates between both of the groups. Because ODC is appointed by the governor, ODC should talk to the governor's office about appointing liaisons to be a representation to another group.

LONG RANGE GOALS & SHORT TERM STRATEGIES

Review list of Potential Issues:

Members reviewed and discussed the following list of potential issues ODC could take on, including:

Potential ODC Issues

- Policy Option Packages (General Assistance, DD Family Supports, etc)
- Long range plan and ADRC
- SB 329 – Oregon Health Fund Board
 - Flexible to meet needs of all individuals with disabilities – supports, assistive technology, DME
- Americans with Disabilities Act – rework and revision
 - LC from DRO
- Employment – unemployment for people with disabilities
 - Research on unemployment rate for people with disabilities
 - Employer outreach and education

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- Rehabilitation and habilitation services
- Affordable housing
- Independent living
- Coordination of services (community based supports, health, mental health)
- Transportation
- Universal design – home, work, community
- Education
 - Access and integration
 - Assistive technology
 - Special education funding and supports
- Public Education, outreach, awareness
- ADA Compliance
- SSI, SSDI, Overpayments, and how employment affects benefits
- Seclusion, restraint, allegations of abuse and neglect in institutions or in the community.
- SB 716
- ODC Accessibility Designees
- Family Support/Children's wrap around services
- Community Mental Health Services
- Services to individuals with autism and their families
- Protective Services, including legislation introduced by Rep. Gelser

Tim Baxter reviewed the DHS proposed reduction list and reported that the Employed Persons with Disabilities (EPD) program may be impacted by the proffered reduction. Dawn reported that the reductions list is on the DHS website where everyone can access it. Tim expressed that he feels there has been a cultural shift within SPD regarding consumer responsiveness. Bill Lynch added that he would like to make a recommendation to take EPD off the list for possible cuts.

Marcie Ingledue reported on issues around education. The modified diploma that was signed into a bill this last spring is not a special education diploma. It is under the department of education and it will affect kids with disabilities. Students can access the diplomas this year and need to get the word out so students know what is available.

Frank Armstrong reported on the special transportation fund which is funded by the cigarette tax. Tax funds are dwindling as more and more people quit smoking. Funds are allocated from general population from each county.

Ruth McEwen reported on meeting with Representative Thatcher and asked NW Seniors and People with Disabilities to create a paper on what is SSI and SSDI and how it fits in with Medicaid services.

Jan Campbell reported that there is a majority vote that is made up of people with disabilities. Jan would like all people with disabilities to be treated the same throughout state. Dawn shared that Oregon Disabilities Commission was a stand-alone commission but now it is within SPD.

Bill Wellard reported on mental health and autism. Majority of the funding will go away as Lane County looks at large cut backs with timber revenue. Bill Wellard reported that in Lane County, there is an increasing caseload of children with autism and that departments are trying to figure out where autism fits, especially between mental health and developmental disabilities services. There is a group within mental health and letting them know that they are not responsible for the costs.

What're our criteria for deciding priorities?

What is missing from the list?

Ruth McEwen discussed the importance of General Assistance (GA) for people who don't have any other income and go onto GA so they can receive their SSI. Ruth expressed the importance of the commission backing GA and would like the commission to support it in some way. Judy Cunio discussed the idea of abuse and mental health being addressed as separate items. Jan Campbell discussed contacting mental health and see where the commission fits in and can support. Bill Wellard expressed that he would be happy to pass the message verbally or by letter to their commission.

Bill Lynch reported on the playground accessibility bill. Bill suggested that this should be something the commission could get behind and support.

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Action Item: The draft on funding for accessible transportation will be presented soon where Dawn will receive in an email and will send to Bill Lynch once she receives a copy.

Judy discussed the value when all the agencies come to the commission and tell what is more important to them.

Martha Simpson would like to know the most effect way of contacting legislature. Email and snail mail should go out to as many groups, individuals and policy makers to let them know who ODC is and what ODC stands for.

Jan Campbell reported that employment is a priority on ODC list.

Ann Balzell discussed the importance of transportation and housing. Also with SB 716 there needs to be more action.

Frank Armstrong discussed the importance of elderly transportation fund and asked the commission for its support.

Action Item: Frank Armstrong is going to talk to the Employment Department about outreach for hiring people with disabilities. He will report back to the commission at the next meeting.

Judy Cunio reported that the commission could do a press release with all the various publications to inform other agencies about ODC. The commission may need to propose a formal request to SPD as to the type of media to use. Karen Mainzer reported that the commission could save money on brochures with legislature offices by conducting an email. Brochures would be great way to reach out to the public.

PRIORITIZE GOALS & ISSUES

Agree on for prioritizing

Abuse

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ADA public awareness
Employment/EPD
GA
Mental health
ODC Outreach
POP's
SB716
Transportation and housing

Prioritize

ADA public awareness
Employment/EPD
GA
POP's

Public Awareness, POPs and GA are all items that the commission will be backing.

The individuals of the commission was asked by Bill Lynch to vote on the top three priorities they would like the commission take on and the voted as follows:

EPD (short term)/Employment (long term)-8 votes
Transportation/SB716 (short term)-5 votes
ADA (short term and long term)-5 votes
Community Mental Health (long term)-5 votes
Protective Services (sort term)-5 votes
Education-1 votes
OHP/Oregon Fund Board-1 votes

Bill asked for discussion to see where the commission stands on broader state issues. Judy Cunio commented on disabilities only being a small part of ODC. Dawn Rustrum discussed ODC revisit their statute and look at the mission and purpose. Bill Lynch asked to see by a raise of hands on the interest of taking on a narrow focus on disabilities issues. Then Bill asked for a show of hands on the broader focus beyond disabilities, which Frank Armstrong was the only one who

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voted to support cross disabilities. Bill Lynch suggest to support disabilities as a focus. Jan asked that the commission to look at the bills individually and discuss with the committee on the bills individually. Primary mission is to work on disability issues but will look at cross disabilities as they come.

Calendaring for ODC meetings

The next ODC meeting is scheduled for November 6th. There was discussion of the Homecare Commission meeting at the same time. Bill Lynch asked the commission as to what other days ODC could meet but it came back to the first Thursday of the new month as the only available day for everyone. Need to express with Homecare Commission that ODC tried to change date but no other date is available. The commission discussed using the Cherry Ave building as a set meeting place. Jan asked to have assistance with transportation and Max will look into getting a cab that will accommodate. The time of meeting will stay from 1 to 3:30PM. The January ODC meeting will be moved to Wednesday the 7th because of New Years Day being the first Thursday. Bob Pope will check to see if he can be available as he has other commitments on Wednesdays. Other than no meeting in December and the exception of January 7th, the commission will continue meeting the first Thursday of the new month.

ODC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

What committees/workgroups do we need to accomplish our work?

Ruth suggested having a special committee during legislative session to appoint ad hoc committees such as a legislative committee of yes or no if we are supporting. Their first assignment would be able to go through POPs. Dawn Rustrum reminded the committee of the purpose of the Executive Committee. Bill Wellard suggested having Karen Mainzer attend these meetings because of her knowledge and background. Ruth McEwen offered to head the committee and suggested that those who would like to also attend suggest they let the chair know. Bill asked to let staff hand out the Exec agenda to all committee so that everyone knows what legislature issues are going to be discussed at the meeting. Executive meetings will have the legislature material at the beginning of the agenda so that time doesn't run out.

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Public Awareness -Are there people willing to meet with staff to be more specific on target audience Judy, Bill Lynch and talk to Kedma, Tina and Sherry about this as well.

Form committees/workgroups

No committee or workgroups were formed at this time.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

For each goal/priority, establish timelines (long-term goals/short term strategies)

There was some discussion on timelines.

Make committee/workgroup assignments

No committee or workgroup assignments at this time. The commission decided to work on selected policies as a whole commission than as workgroups.

RETREAT EVALUATION & FINAL THOUGHTS

Bill Lynch asked the commission for feedback at this time on what worked and didn't work about today's meeting.

Frank Armstrong thanked Bill Lynch for leading the commission through today's discussion. Bob Pope thanked the commission for asking him to attend today. Frank Synoground discussed how fortunate the commission is to have Bob Pope. Frank felt that the commission was unclear with the decision of cross disability or single focus group. It seems that all the efforts totaled up to cross disability and yet wanting to be called a primary disability group. Ann Balzell felt the commission worked as a team and came up with a good list to work on. Martha Simpson expressed how well the meeting went and wrote a lot of notes to keep her busy. Ruth McEwen was happy to give priorities to action items so there is a direction as to where the commission is going. Judy Cunio feels like the commission worked together as a team and if there was a disagreement we were able to discuss it. Felt like the commission accomplished a lot. Marcie Ingledue thanked staff for spending

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time on this planning process. Bill Wellard welcomed Bob Pope and Karen Mainzer to the group and thought today was very productive.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:58PM