

# OREGON DISABILITIES COMMISSION

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Thursday • January 3, 2008 • 1:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Large Conference Room on First Floor • 676 Church Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Frank Armstrong  
Janet Campbell  
Judith Cunio  
Cindy Helvington

Marcie Ingledue  
Bill Lynch  
Ruth McEwen  
Kedma Ough

Martha Simpson  
Tina Treasure

## **MEMBER EXCUSED:**

Bill Wellard

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

Dawn Rustrum, Advocacy Coordinator  
Becky Murphy, Administrative Staff

## **AGENDA ITEMS:**

### **Call to Order**

- Introductions
- Review and Approval of Agenda
- Review and Approval of Minutes
- Review of Meeting Packet and Staff Updates
- Other Updates/Announcements

### **SPD and Legislative Updates**

### **Cross-Disability Priorities**

### **Bylaws**

### **Review of ODC Applications**

### **Public Comment**

### **Adjourn**

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

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Bill Lynch called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

### **Introductions**

Commission members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

### **Review and Approval of Agenda**

Members reviewed the agenda and approved it as drafted. Bill clarified that members can report an item under Updates/Announcements if brief but that items requiring more than 3-4 minutes should be submitted to staff before the meeting to be included as agenda items.

By consensus and without objection, the agenda was approved as drafted.

**Vote:** 10-0-1

**Yeas:** Armstrong, Campbell, Cunio, Helvington, Ingledue, Lynch, McEwen, Ough, Simpson, Treasure

**Nays:** 0

**Excused:** Wellard

**Motion carried.**

### **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Members reviewed the minutes from the 11-29-07 meeting and approved them as written.

**Motion:** Jan Campbell moved that the minutes be approved as written. Judith Cunio seconded motion.

**Vote:** 10-0-1

**Yeas:** Armstrong, Campbell, Cunio, Helvington, Ingledue, Lynch, McEwen, Ough, Simpson, Treasure

**Nays:** 0

**Excused:** Wellard

**Motion carried.**

## **Review of Meeting Packet and Staff Updates**

Dawn provided an overview of the meeting packet contents. Dawn asked the members to look at the information on the Home Care Commission (HCC) and the Medicaid Long Term Care Quality and Reimbursement Advisory Council and explained that both require ODC representation statutorily.

Cheryl Sanders, Executive Director of the Home Care Commission (HCC) introduced herself, summarized the history of HCC, their committees, and the mandate to have an ODC representative on the commission.

**Action Item:** Members will review information about the Home Care Commission and the Medicaid Long Term Care Quality and Reimbursement Advisory Council and let staff know if interested in being an ODC representative to either group.

## **Updates/Announcements**

Jan inquired about the implementation of SB 716 in municipalities across the state. Reported that the Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America backed the bill and that the Oregon Advocacy Center is doing an ADA analysis on the implications of the bill.

SB 716:

- Requires the Department of Transportation to issue wheelchair only parking placards or decals
- Requires the designation of wheelchair only spaces in addition to disabled spaces in parking lots
- Permits, but does not require, local governments to allow free and unlimited parking at parking meters within their jurisdictions to individuals with standard disabled parking placards

**Action Items:** Staff will check with the Oregon Advocacy Center regarding the ADA analysis and will check with ODOT regarding statewide implementation. Staff will include SB 716 as an agenda item for the next meeting.

Jan reported that Joseph and Pamela VanderVeer, leaders of the “Underrepresented Project”, a project created to facilitate political self-advocacy for Americans with disabilities, would like to celebrate the newly formed Oregon Disabilities

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Commission as part of their rally at the state capitol on the first day of the February session. Commission members discussed the idea, alternative ways of publicizing ODC, and decided not to be included in the rally but to pursue other options for publicizing ODC.

## **SPD & LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

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James Toews, SPD Assistant Director, DHS introduced himself and discussed the following:

- Long range planning
- Issues facing support systems for seniors and people with disabilities
- Loss of capacity in community based system
- Original projections of nursing home caseloads increased by approximately 600-700 people
- Developing recommendations on how to restructure the Medicaid system
- Rate structure hasn't been updated in years and isn't competitive
- Interim rate change proposal for February session that would increase assisted living, foster care, and residential care rates
- Oregon's senior population doubles in the next 20 years and the number of people with disabilities will increase substantially as well
- Researching the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) model
- Developing recommendations on quality assurance
- A draft plan should be complete in late March or early April
- Focus groups and/or stakeholder meetings to discuss the recommendations in the plan. ODC will have the opportunity to be involved as well as the Governor's Commission on Senior Services and other stakeholder groups
- Plan to do public forums across the state in June

James responded to a question regarding the mandatory reporting of abuse for seniors versus people with disabilities. James explained that currently people with disabilities are included with seniors by rule but not by law.

James was asked about the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) rate change. James clarified that there was a reduction in rates not a reduction in benefits. He said SPD has been tracking with the field offices to make sure there are no access issues.

Debbie Bowers, Intergovernmental Affairs Liaison for SPD, referred to the 2008 Legislative Schedule included in the meeting packet and provided a brief summary of proposed deadlines for the February session.

## **CROSS-DISABILITIES PRIORITIES**

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Members discussed some potential cross-disability priorities the commission could focus on including:

- Durable Medical Equipment (DME)
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- Employment
- Transportation
- Housing
- Mental Health – veterans suffering from post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and possible physical disability (submitted by Bill Wellard)
- Oregon State Capitol Restoration Project – accessibility for individuals with disabilities
- Oregon Project Independence (OPI)

**Motion:** Marcie Ingledue moved that ODC send a formal letter inviting a representative from the Oregon State Capitol Restoration Project to the next ODC meeting to discuss access issues and that ODC make it a priority to participate in all future plans and discussions relating to the capitol restoration project. Additionally, ODC will suggest that state of the art accessibility above and beyond that of the ADA requirements be included in future plans.

**Vote:** 10-0-1

**Yeas:** Armstrong, Campbell, Cunio, Helvington, Ingledue, Lynch, McEwen, Ough, Simpson, Treasure

**Nays:** 0

**Excused:** Wellard

**Motion carried.**

**Action Item:** Staff will draft a letter of invitation to be reviewed by the ODC Chair and sent to the appropriate Oregon State Capitol Restoration Project representative.

Suggested talking points:

- Equal access for all individuals through the front door
- Formal request to be included in future plans and discussions regarding the restoration project
- Promotes respect and dignity of people with disabilities
- Mention Eugene court house

Jan mentioned that the old ODC had ADA designees. Suggested that the commission consider reinstating designees again.

**Action Item:** Staff will research information about ADA designees.

Bill inquired about Oregon Project Independence (OPI). Debbie agreed to keep ODC updated on the proposal to restore the previous OPI budget and to increase funding so people with disabilities can be included.

Members discussed ways of publicizing ODC such as:

- Website (in progress)
- Posting minutes on website (in progress)
- Brochure (in progress)
- Newsletter
- Annual Report
- Display at the Capitol (during session?)
- ODC e-mail address is [info.odc@state.or.us](mailto:info.odc@state.or.us)

## **BYLAWS**

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Members continued work on their bylaws. Discussion focused on membership. There was discussion regarding whether or not the commission could have at large positions. Discussion followed around statute language limiting membership to individuals “broadly representative of major public and private agencies who are experienced in or have demonstrated particular interest in the special needs of individuals with disabilities and consumers”. Members inquired about Oregon Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (ODHHS) representation on ODC. Bill agreed to contact ODHHS on behalf of ODC.

Members made the following decisions:

- Use the statute language quoted above in the membership section of the bylaws
- Keep the nine agencies listed by name in the bylaws but delete the numbers of representatives from each
- Add “representatives of other private and public agencies” to the end of the list of agencies

**Action Item:** Bill will contact ODHHS regarding a representative to ODC.

## **REVIEW OF ODC APPLICATIONS**

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Members reviewed an application submitted by Frank Synoground, a representative of the Commission for the Blind. Members reviewed Bylaws language and statute language before making a recommendation to appoint Frank Synoground to ODC.

**Motion:** Judy Cunio moved that the commission recommend the appointment of Frank Synoground to ODC. Tina Treasure seconded the motion.

**Vote:** 10-0-1

**Yeas:** Armstrong, Campbell, Cunio, Helvington, Ingledue, Lynch, McEwen, Ough, Simpson, Treasure

**Nays:** 0

**Excused:** Wellard

**Motion carried.**

Members reviewed an application submitted by David Miller, a Disability Consultant in Portland, Oregon. Members reviewed Bylaws language and statute language before making a recommendation not to appoint David Miller to ODC based on statute language limiting membership to individuals “broadly representative of major public and private agencies”.

By consensus and without objection, the commission decided not to recommend the appointment of David Miller to ODC.

**Vote:** 10-0-1

**Yeas:** Armstrong, Campbell, Cunio, Helvington, Ingledue, Lynch, McEwen, Ough, Simpson, Treasure

**Nays:** 0

**Excused:** Wellard

**Motion carried.**

**Action Item:** Staff will send appointment recommendations to the Governor's Office.

### **Application Review Process**

Members discussed establishing a formal application review and interview process for future applicants including a committee to screen applications. Tina Treasure shared the process she has used in the past. Members expressed interest in using that process as a foundation to build our own process. Members discussed creating a policy and procedures manual that would include the approved interview process. Members inquired about voting requirements. Staff agreed to research whether or not voting has to be done by verbal role call vote and also whether or not all votes have to be taken publicly.

**Motion:** Jan Campbell moved that ODC establish a formal application review and interview process including a committee to screen applications. Cindy Helvington seconded the motion.

**Vote:** 9-0-2

**Yeas:** Armstrong, Campbell, Cunio, Helvington, Lynch, McEwen, Ough, Simpson, Treasure

**Nays:** 0

**Excused:** Ingledue, Wellard

**Motion carried.**

### **Action Items:**

- Tina Treasure agreed to send staff the SILC application review and interview process language.
- Staff will create a draft Policy and Procedures Manual which will include the approved interview and appointment process.
- Staff will research whether or not voting has to be done by verbal role call vote and also whether or not all votes have to be taken publicly.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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None

**Meeting Adjourned:** 3:30 p.m.