

**People with Disabilities Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
July 12, 2006**

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**Participants:** (X = attended, A = absent; E = Excused) – July 12<sup>th</sup>

<b>Members</b>			
<b>X</b>	Peggie Beck	<b>X</b>	Kathryn Jenness
<b>E</b>	Jack Benson	<b>X</b>	Scott Lay
<b>X</b>	Jan Campbell	<b>X</b>	Ruth McEwen
<b>E</b>	Donna Crawford	<b>E</b>	James Naegele
<b>X*</b>	Tonita Croghan	<b>X</b>	Dayle Niemie
<b>E</b>	Reta Griffith	<b>X</b>	Karen Showers
		<b>X</b>	Mike Volpe
<b>Attendants:</b> Paul Carnes, Avi Cooper, and Glenna Niemie			
<b>Staff</b>			
Morgen Brodie, Marc Overbeck, and Wendy Russell			
<b>Public/Guests</b>			
Sally Lawson, NW Senior & Disabled Services			
<b>Speakers</b>			
Jane-ellen Weidanz Joe Easton		Laurie Brooks. Joe Hesting	

\* Phoned in for Part of the Meeting.

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## **Call to Order (12:05)**

## **Introductions**

Introductions were made.

## **July Agenda Review**

No changes were made to the agenda.

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## **June Minutes**

**MOTION: Accept minutes as written. *Passed.*** (Jan Campbell/Kathryn Jenness)

## **Action Items Follow-Up**

The price out of in-person meetings that Becky put together was discussed and Morgen explained and answered any questions.

Scott recommended that the Committee meet more often in person.

**MOTION: Compile a list of costs to submit to Cathy Cooper to request more meetings in person, and other necessary expenditures for conducting PDAC business. Include the cost differential between video and phone meetings. *Passed.*** (Scott Lay/Kathryn Jenness)

Staff will find out how often the Commission for the Blind and the Developmental Disabilities Council meet.

## **Staff Updates**

- **Attendant Service Reimbursement Policy** – (1) One of the proposed ideas is for those who privately pay for attendants will receive a reimbursement of \$10 an hour for actual meeting time. It will be considered income to the person who receives it and would have to be dealt with accordingly. (2) Proposed draft Title XIX policy to DHS related workgroups is that attendant services would be a service plan adjustment for actual meeting time. If someone is eligible for 24-hour services, there would be no additional payment from the group. The use of actual natural supports is

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encouraged where appropriate. Hours might be considered standby or actual service depending on what is being provided. Morgen will double-check on reimbursement for travel time.

- **Physical Disabilities Conference** - No update at this time.
- **Future of Long Term Care (FLTC) Workgroup** – The full workgroup meets on the afternoon of August 23rd. The Executive Committee may want to reschedule. Staff will send out an email asking for them to meet earlier that day.

## **Public Input**

None.

## **Overview of DHS Budget Process (Jane-ellen Weidanz, SPD Intergovernmental Affairs Liaison)**

Jane-ellen presented information on how the budget process works. She told the members where the Committee can best influence the budget. She explained the specific roles and level of interest in what stakeholders have to say. Jane-ellen informed members that James and Cathy have the most influence on the budget for PDAC. She encouraged the Committee to ask the Budget and Management Analyst to hear their concerns since the analyst is the person who can suggest and recommend what is taken to the Governor. Letters and advocacy to the Governor are also ways that members as individuals can voice your needs. Jane-ellen also encouraged members to get to know their legislators and make sure they understand your needs and concerns with reasonable solutions. Again, this is done as individuals, or using groups such as ODC, who have the ability to lobby.

Jane-ellen answered various questions from members.

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Members decided to finalize the letter to the director explaining what the Employment Initiative is and why the Employment Specialists are needed, and then maybe also send the letter on to the Governor.

## **COLA Issues for Clients**

Members read the information provided in the meeting packet. If needed, Jeff Miller can be invited to the next meeting to discuss this issue.

## **Service Hours Reduction (Joe Easton, In-Home Services Manager)**

Joe assured members that there is not a push to reduce service hours and there has been more training about natural supports to the field workers. Audits of the field offices are being done and then where training is needed, it is given. There has only been a 6% reduction in service hours and most of that is because not all of the authorized hours were used. Explanations were given for reductions and questions were answered. It has been recommended that case managers get medical information, as well as interviewing in-home service providers and family members to get an overall view of the individual's needs.

Joe answered various questions from committee members.

Morgen asked members to write up a journal on what it takes to get through the day with or without workers, natural supports, etc., as a way of providing education and awareness to caseworkers.

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Jeanette Burket will be invited to talk to members at the next meeting regarding attendant reimbursement proposals.

## **Strategic Plan Goals Update**

Kathryn asked that on the PDAC brochure it read Kathryn Jenness - Eugene (Lowell).

It was decided that PDAC would send a “thinking of you” card to Barbara Hawk, a long time advocate.

Scott offered his assistance in writing letters in regards to the Employment Initiative and would like members to share their personal experiences to make it more meaningful.

## **Access Technologies Inc. (ATI) (Laurie Brooks, Executive] Director)**

Laurie distributed various handouts. She explained that ATI is a non-profit that implements the Federal Tech Act Grant through DHS. It is a statewide Assistive Technology Program that participates in the utilization of Durable Medical Equipment or Assistive Technology. There are device demonstration centers in Salem and Portland. ATI has a device loan program where consumers may rent for a nominal fee to see if specific technology will work for them. They are in the process of trying to create a virtual demonstration center. ATI provides training and technical assistance to agencies and providers. They work a lot with Vocational Rehabilitation and give ergonomic assessments. Currently

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ATI is looking for volunteers to become members of the board of directors and also for the advisory council.

Laurie announced a new auction site on the Internet specifically designed for assistive technology, ATmatch.com, where a person can bid on available assistive technology.

### **Emergency Response/HSB Evacuation (Joe Hesting, DHS Human Resources)**

Joe explained that he works in the Human Resources office of DHS with a focus on Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act. He answered questions and took down member comments regarding the policies and procedures around emergencies in the Human Services Building. He has been working with Erik Wood and other members of the emergency response workgroup to find better solutions.

Members suggested that on the evacuation maps that are posted it should show where the safe place is for people with disabilities and that a map should also be located near the elevators (where people naturally congregate).

PDAC asked what kind of training the floor monitors receive when it comes to dealing with various disabilities including how to work with people who panic. Members gave a list of specific concerns and ideas.

Joe talked about Denise Spielman from the Northwest ADA Information and Training Center's emergency preparedness training. Wendy will

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contact her about receiving the information. Members may want her to make a presentation at a later meeting.

It was decided that issues regarding safety and emergency response would be sent with either Scott or Ruth to be brought up at hopefully the next HSB Safety Committee Meeting where they will try to get time on the agenda. Joe will get the schedule of the Safety Meetings for PDAC.

[UPDATE: We have since determined that it is the IMS – Incident Management System – team that handles emergency evacuations. They are forming an advisory committee to deal with with issues regarding people with disabilities. Morgen and a PDAC member will be invited to participate when the first official meeting is scheduled. The first meeting will be August 23, 2006, 3:00-4:00 in Room 457 (every fourth Wednesday, 3:00-4:00.)

Joe asked for any volunteers for the Diversity Development and Coordinating Council.

## **Committee Members Comments**

Jan requested that the Executive Committee change their July meeting date and/or time due to ADA celebrations that day.

Karen is interested in the Disability Awareness Training. Staff will send her the information.

Morgen mentioned that Georgia Ortiz recently attended a Netlink training which was captioned as an accommodation. There were a

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number of things that didn't work well and Georgia has made recommendations to the Training Unit.

DHS/SPD Update: Request Clyde's direction on how to get information to and from the Director. The only outstanding communication from the Director's Office was about the budget and Jane-ellen covered that today. Have James discuss the definition on who the Committee serves. Proposal on how the Committee sees themselves.

**Adjourned (4:45)**