

**People with Disabilities Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2006**

Participants: (X = attended, A = absent; E = Excused) – August 9th

Members			
X	Peggie Beck	X	Scott Lay
X	Jack Benson	X	Ruth McEwen
X	Jan Campbell	E	James Naegele
A	Donna Crawford	X	Dayle Niemie
X	Tonita Croghan	X	Karen Showers
A	Kathryn Jenness	X	Mike Volpe
Staff			
Morgen Brodie, Becky Murphy, and Marc Overbeck			
Public/Guests			
None			
Speakers			
Jeannette Burket Cathy Cooper		James Toews	

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m.

Roll Call

Roll call was conducted. A quorum was not present.

Agenda Review

No changes in the agenda.

Attendant Reimbursement Policy (Jeanette Burket)

Jeanette reported policy is being developed that will represent equitability while staying within the law for waived Title XIX service requirements. The proposal represents our attempt to make it as equitable as possible.

For Title XIX, this applies also to commissions, SPD workgroups, and advisory groups and gives us the ability to cover most of the additional tasks or time that's required to complete tasks related to ADL needs by adjusting the Home Care Worker plan.

Rather than having a very specific policy transmittal, we will be asking caseworkers if the issue is not very clear from this transmittal or if it is complicated or there are unanswered questions, to call Central Office. Joe Easton, the In-Home Services Manager, will review each plan and walk the caseworkers through the reasonable expectations to meet the needs.

Home Care Workers can get the standard per diem and allowance when traveling. It was previously asked if we would pay for tasks associated with ADL needs, such as moving the suitcases. Yes, the suitcase contents are related to meeting the ADL needs. Jeanette believes hours can be authorized for transportation, so driving would be covered; she will clarify this with Mary Lang.

Scott asked how do we get the same assistance for anybody who wants to be involved in other groups? He felt it is an elitist policy.

Jeanette reported this policy will also apply to OPI clients.

Morgen added that an "offset" of \$10 per hour will be offered to those advocates who do not use Medicaid-paid attendant care to offset the costs of their private-paid attendant services.

People with Disabilities Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2006

Morgen suggested that PDAC might want to send a letter throughout the Department to help educate about this issue.

Dayle asked about whether this policy supports members of the public to attend PDAC meetings, and the answer is it does not.

Jeanette and Morgen said they would take the suggestions and continue to work on this policy.

Scott asked whether some general fund dollars might be available to help defray the "extra costs" of mileage for people with large vehicles that are required for transport, where the cost per mile exceeds the approved mileage rate. The answer has been that it would not be, but she will continue to research this issue and look at other practices.

DHS/SPD Update (James Toews/Cathy Cooper)

Home Care Commission (HCC) Lawsuit – The HCC lawsuit has been withdrawn.

James said that there will be a lot of work done in the next legislative session on the HCC. There is a proposal to move the Commission outside of DHS and have it be an independent entity, as stated in the statute.

Mike asked about Oregon Health Care Association's (OHCA) priorities for the next two years. James said he expected they would include re-establishing the Provider Tax, which sunsets in the next year, and the issue of staffing ratios, which will be addressed by the Nursing Home Staffing Committee put together by the Governor.

2007-09 Budget Update -- James gave an update on the budget; there are a small number of items that include a lot of money. Overall there are about \$300 million, and SPD's are about \$50 million. There are no

People with Disabilities Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2006

proposed enhancements or expansions of SPD's services. All that is happening is a 'shoring up' of the existing infrastructure. James also said it is unlikely that most of the \$300 million will be in the Governor's recommended budget because Corrections' costs are increasing, and the Governor and legislature have promised Education a large sum of money in the next budget cycle. James' concern is that Human Services budgets will be equal or reduced in the next cycle. There was a great deal of discussion at the Cabinet level whether to even move forward the packages that were recommended, and the decision was made to move them forward, even if they did not have a great chance of making it into the Governor's Budget.

SB 232 is a legislative mandate to integrate juveniles with disabilities into the Psychiatric Security Review Board system. The cost of this is approximately \$6-\$7 million.

Cathy clarified that SPD did put forward the EI Policy Option Package (POP). When decisions were made to rank the POPs, that package was placed in the second of three tiers.

James said that everything was released at the same time to the public and to staff, which is why PDAC members found the information at the same time as the rest of the world.

Scott brought up that originally PDAC members had asked to see the POPs and that never happened. Morgen noted that she had never seen a "list" of packages, only that we knew that the package was "on a list." As the manager, Morgen took responsibility for any slip in the process of not getting information to members that was available.

Scott asked about the details of the package to increase children with disabilities' ability to achieve eligibility for SSI. James offered to get

People with Disabilities Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2006

details on this package. Scott noted that historically, it seems that getting people on SSI was a goal, and could it be perceived as “not the end-all.”

Jan asked “what can we do” if the budget is already through DHS? What can we do as advocates? Can we lobby? Or can we only educate? How can we advocate?

MOTION: Direct PDAC to take steps to further advocate for the EI Policy Option Package in the budget. Passed. (Scott Lay/Jan Campbell) Morgen suggested that success stories be compiled for this purpose.

Scott asked to see the entire list of POPs compiled by SPD.

ACTION ITEM: Staff will research for the list of Policy Option Packages that SPD submitted to the Department’s budget process and distribute to the Committee.

Oregon Disabilities Commission (ODC) Update —James mentioned the meeting with advocates a couple weeks ago to formulate the purpose of ODC. He felt it was a good group and a good start. He said that the Governor has expressed, through staff, his strong desire to have a new ODC group appointed by the end of the year. James reiterated his value that the new group does not in any way diminish the value and role of the existing groups. James said that discussion also centered around how many groups would be involved. There is some consensus around making sure the core existing groups are represented in the membership of ODC.

Jan asked how many of the attendees at the meeting were consumers, as she heard from others there were “not many” consumers. James counted six consumers; in fact, about half the attendees in the meeting were consumers.

People with Disabilities Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2006

Future of Long-Term Care (FLTC) Workgroup #8 — James said that he believes the first task for Workgroup #8 is to gather data and research on the disability population. The goal is to get some model together to make projections about future service capacity and how it looks against our projections.

The next meeting of the full FLTC Workgroup is August 23rd. Mostly the group will hear from GCSS around what was said at the forums. The workgroups will be asked to go back and do more work, and a new schedule for the workgroup will be developed.

ACTION ITEM: Inform members about the new date for the FTLC Workgroup #8 meeting.

Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) — There may be some provisions in the Deficit Reduction Act that can help Oregon.

There is \$1.7 billion to help states rebalance their systems, and see if there is some way Oregon can utilize these funds to help more people transition to community settings. The DRA also allows states to propose a State Plan Option to re-work their Medicaid system. Ruth asked if Oregon could use MUFL under this Act, or if Oregon could get a “teaching grant” to obtain money to guide other states in how to rebalance their systems.

Dayle asked for clarification on the “Money Follows the Person” program. Ruth had copies of an HHS Update that Becky will distribute to members.

Continuation of Call to Order

December Minutes

Since a quorum was present, Ruth asked about the minutes.

People with Disabilities Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2006

MOTION: Approval of the minutes as written. *Passed.* (Dayle Niemie/Peggie Beck) (Jack Benson abstained.)

Action Items Follow-Up

Becky went through the list of action items. It was determined that teleconferences and video conferences are not charged per meeting, but costs are spread throughout the agency evenly.

Costs at the Salem Inn are increasing: Suites are increasing from \$71 to \$99 plus tax, and the meeting room will be \$150 a day---if PDAC has 10 or more guests, the cost will be \$75 a day. Becky will check out other motels. Peggie recommended the Mill Creek Inn. Morgen said the priced out costs of meetings for the year---were based on former costs---which would bring expenses to the total allocation of \$50,000 if PDAC meets in-person every other month.

Becky had asked for clarification on who was assigned to compile a list of objectives and expenses to used in proposing a new allocation for 2007-09. It was requested that staff complete this action.

The Commission for the Blind and the Developmental Disabilities Council meet every other month. Becky asked for input on the transportation brokerage system. She also said that a representative from PDAC would be sought on emergency preparedness in the near future (for the Director's Office).

Introduction of Connie Saldaña

Morgen introduced Connie who is now working as part of SPD to help put together a plan for emergency preparedness for people with disabilities and the "frail elderly" and other groups who may need special assistance in the event of a widespread emergency or disaster. Connie spoke briefly about her role and what she is working on. She

People with Disabilities Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2006

would welcome recommendations on an alternative name to “special needs” which is a federal term. Peggie proposed “alternative needs.”

PDAC Name Change?/Bylaws Revision

Ruth asked to postpone consideration of the PDAC name change and bylaws revisions to the next in-person meeting.

Staff Updates

Morgen explained there is no news on a date for the move, and talked about details of the space. After today’s meeting, Jan and Bentley Fink from ODHHS are going with Morgen on a tour of the space to look at accessibility of the space. Scott asked that Jan take a close look at the elevator in the building.

Reports:

Liaison – Liaison Reports are included in the meeting packet.

SubCommittees –

EPD – Scot reported most discussion has been through email.

Language/Training – Jack reported of the mission statement and action items. It was requested that the mission statement be sent to all members.

OPI Expansion – It was requested that PDAC give a joint recommendation with GCSS. Three PDAC members attended the last GCSS meeting and with two GCSS members will work on a joint OPI position.

People with Disabilities Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2006

Staff would email the OPI questions ---- individual responses and a group response are due by beginning of next week.

Strategic Planning Goals

Marc reminded members about the goals made in the April Meeting, wanting to know what they thought of it as PDAC's primary work plan. Is it effective? Are the goals being accomplished? Marc reviewed the updated goal document, going over goals and activities (clarifying some items)—those already done and those to be done. Ideally everything---speakers and agenda items of meetings---would be found under one of the goals.

There will be monthly updates on our goal achievements. Marc did suggest graying out those items already completed, so it would be easier to see what still needs to be done on the "goal" document.

After discussion of the budget goal, Morgen proposed the Executive Committee sit down with James to define "meaningful involvement" in participating with budget development.

While discussing the EPD activities, Brenda's EPD brief was discussed.

MOTION: Draft an EPD letter to Brenda Sheppard. *Passed.* (Scott Lay/Jan Campbell) [Copies to James, Cathy, and Gene Sundet.]

Public Input

None.

Committee Member Comments

NOTE: The connection was terminated at all sites at 2:00 instead of 2:30 p.m. in error. (Email sent out to members and to video conferencing coordinators.)

Those in Salem discussed recruitment of members. Reta has resigned. Jan volunteered to contact Susan Grimes of the possibility of becoming a member again.

Next Meeting Items

The next meeting will be held September 13, 2006. It is also a video conferencing meeting. Becky changed all the phone meetings to video conferencing meetings; however, she will email members to make sure of their preference.

Proposed guests:

- Someone from Estate Administration.
- Possibly Lee Girard or Lynda Dyer regarding OPI.
- Transit representatives possibly in November.

Adjourned.