

**People with Physical Disabilities Advisory Committee
June 13, 2007
Meeting Minutes**

Participants: (X = attended, A = absent; E = Excused) – June 13th

Members			
X	Jan Campbell	X	Scott Lay
X	Donna Crawford	X	Ruth McEwen
X	Tonita Croghan	X	Karen Showers
X	Kathryn Jenness	X	Mike Volpe
Prospective Members			
X	Sharon Ely	X	Phillip Pownall
X	Linda Hildebrand	X	Ed Zaha
Staff			
Lee Girard, Becky Murphy, and Marc Overbeck			
Public/Guests			
Tim Baxter (Eugene)			
Speakers			
Connie Saldana		Max Brown Gene Sundet	

Call to Order

Agenda

There were no changes made to the agenda.

Review of Minutes

MOTION: Accept the minutes as written. *Passed.* (Jan Campbell/Mike Volpe)

Follow-up Action Items

Becky reported the “To Do List” (in the meeting packet) had a few updates:

- Tracking Awareness Events – A list has been created for the year. A meeting is scheduled with DHS Communications in July (after back from vacation).
- The letter to Dr. Goldberg (challenge to live on monthly disability benefits) was put “on hold” for more discussion.
- The letter to Mary Gear regarding ALFs and access issues was put “on hold” until Mary provides PDAC with more information at July’s meeting.
- Clarification on one action item: Was Mary or staff to research information about ALFs, Community Housing monies, and a time limit. Ruth answered that Mary was assigned it.
- Sent out an Informational Memorandum regarding Oregon Project Independence (OPI) training registration. Received a question regarding PDAC and the training---PDAC members are encouraged to register to attend training in their area. Also PDAC members are requested to volunteer to be on the panel at the training in their area.

If you have questions about any transmittals or the rules tracking sheets, please let Becky know and she’ll research it. One member asked if PDAC had been asked to review any of them. There was no response for a couple of them when PDAC was asked to review.

Staff Updates (Lee Girard)

Church Street Building Accessibility Issues Update:

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- The adjustable raised tables have been received.
- The automatic doors for inside the building have been ordered. The contractor is waiting on the parts to complete the work.
- The flashing light for the fire alarm system has been ordered.
- Randy McKibben of Facilities is contacting Sonitrol, the security company, regarding the main entry to the building to make it more user-friendly.
- Signs have been posted by the intercom, door bell, etc. A member reminded the group that signage needs to be large print with contrasting colors, and what about a sign with Braille.

ACTION NEEDED: Signs in Braille need to be ordered.

ACTION NEEDED: Change sign “Sick Room” to “Quiet Room” in a reasonable font size and contrasting print.

Network of Care:

- The facilitator tool for facility option will be moved to each county “splash” page as an option.
- The font/color (making more contrast) will be changed.

GCSS:

Marc reported:

- GCSS would definitely like to work with PDAC and Mary Gear about access and capacity issues. It was suggested that a couple GCSS members attend PDAC’s July meeting and a couple PDAC members attend GCSS’ July meeting.

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- Letter to Dr. Goldberg. [Marc personally thought it would be a great challenge, like the food stamp challenge to the Governor.]

Other:

Lee reported the combined units (State Unit on Aging and the Advocacy Unit) was field testing a proposed name: Community Independence and Advocacy Unit (CIA).

Dr. Goldberg's Letter:

There was more discussion on the proposed letter to Dr. Goldberg with a "challenge to live on disability benefits." Members felt the timing may not be the best, possibly wait until after the legislative session and collaborate with other groups.

MOTION: Work with other groups and draft letter to send Dr. Goldberg to promote in-home services standard (challenge to live on disability benefits). Passed. (Scott Lay/Jan Campbell)

Public Input (three minutes per person)

Sharon Ely – Attended by phone because of health reasons. She volunteered to discuss the proposed letter to Dr. Goldberg with Tina Treasure with possible collaboration with SILC.

Phillip Pownall – Responded to the possible letter to Dr. Goldberg, suggesting PDAC send a balance sheet with the basic household expenses.

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Linda Hildebrand – Attended by phone as she is recuperating from surgery. In response to the letter discussion, she mentioned housing costs needs to be an issue.

Ed Zaha – Also in response to the letter discussion, he mentioned the balance sheet should reflect all elements, such as insurance and fuel; usually nothing left for anything like recreation activities.

Emergency Preparedness Update (Connie Saldana)

Connie gave an update, although most activities are still in process. Her contract ends June 30th; however, she still welcomes input and questions. Becky will send out contact information.

Connie reminded members that she submitted PDAC's recommendations regarding the emergency response term of "special needs"; however, the Health Division of DHS decided on "vulnerable population" because it included others besides people with disabilities (such as children and frail seniors).

Connie briefly reported on:

- Long Term Care Facilities – coordination of rules and plans.
- Pharmaceuticals – rules ready for a disaster.
- Staffing issues.
- DD issues.

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- County Plans – one page summary to program managers, AAA directors, etc. Plans across community groups and resources.
- Templates of plans and other forms.
- Website to be created – Health Alert Network (www.oregonhand.org) with links.
- Disaster Registry – local areas [Multnomah County and Portland has a registry set up through Network of Care.]
- Communication within central and field offices and facilities.
- Example of a real disaster: A recent fire in a facility.
- “Sheltering” has been assigned to DHS for Oregon.
- Rules and mandates from federal and state agencies (including DHS).
- Brought some handouts.

ACTION NEEDED: Becky to distribute materials.

Consideration of Members

Mike reported that the Executive Committee interviewed the three prospective members (Sharon, Phillip, and Ed) that attended the last in-person meeting, and recommends them to become members.

MOTION: Recommends the prospective members (Sharon, Phillip, and Ed) to the DHS Director to become PDAC members. Passed. (Mike Volpe/Donna Crawford)

DHS/SPD Update (Marc Overbeck)

Neither Cathy Cooper nor James Toews could attend because of a scheduling conflict so Marc gave their update:

SPD Budget - The DHS Ways and Means work session began on June 11, 2007. SPD is scheduled for a work session on Thursday, June 14th.

Thursday, June 14, 2007 – Public Hearing and Work Session:

- HB 2406 - Relating to home care for medical involved children.
- SB 157 - Relating to the Home Care Commission.

Work Session:

- HB 5031 - Department of Human Services: Seniors and People with Disabilities.

The Department will be wrapping the work sessions on June 19th-20th.

Legislative Update - The session is drawing to a close; lawmakers are still aiming for June 29th or before.

ODC Update – The applications from the advocacy groups are at the Governor’s Appointments office. There should be some movement on official appointments after the session closes.

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Money Follows the Person Grant Update - The Steering Committee and activities will begin as soon as the session is over.

Resignation

Karen read her resignation: “It is with deep regret that I will not be requesting reappointment...I must concentrate on personal and professional needs which will consume a great portion of my energy and time.”

Legislative Update (Max Brown)

Max reported that the last couple of weeks have been intense since we're close to adjournment.

- The DHS budget work sessions are this week.
- Briefly mentioned SB 137 and HB 2406.
- Christmas Tree Package bill – combine bills for any extra dispersible funds.
- HB 2032 – County Tax Deferral, takes monies away from OPI - may be dead.
- SB 716 – Parking Spaces – It will soon go to the Governor.
- SB 27 & SB 329 – Health Care bills – 329 may go forward. The Long Term Care services were taken out; the focus will be on acute and medical coverage.

Debriefing

Emergency Preparedness:

- The issue of “sheltering” should not be dropped.
ACTION NEEDED: Becky will check schedule of meetings, etc.
- Fire example – The plan was a disaster in itself reported Donna who is involved in the Clackamas Long Term Care Committee (working with the Advisory Council) to make stronger plans. PDAC needs to spur them on.
- Partnering is a good idea --- possibly with GCSS?

DHS/SPD:

- Questioned about the ODC applications. Becky summarized that she personally delivered the applications and was recently informed all interest forms are acknowledged. Ruth volunteered to check again since only one of the four nominees believes they received an acknowledgement through their email.

Legislative Update

- There is disappointment with the SPD budget not restoring SPL levels and monies for OPI expansion to younger people with disabilities.

Monthly Update and Upcoming Rules (Gene Sundet)

There was discussion on potential rules and input from PDAC. There is a 90-day window in the process; PDAC can review and give input before the rules are filed.

There was a question about an issue brought up at a previous meeting – 24 hour service but no live-in home care worker and if there could be an accommodation allowance of a second bedroom. In-Home Services believes 24 hour service is the same as shift givers, and since the worker needs to be awake and doesn't need a sleeping area. Invite Joe Easton at the next meeting to discuss this.

Gene reviewed the Rule Amendment Summary with members and answered any questions.

Scott asked about “assumed eligible and EPD” – which will be look at with the work group. He also asked about Section 1901 R 2 and the Deficit Reduction Act. Gene reported that the section uses categorically eligibility which is a real basic eligibility criterion.

Debriefing on Gene's Monthly Update:

- It was felt there were mixed messages from Gene and others.
- Have a process in place to request responses in writing for clarity as an expectation.

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DECISION: The small work group working on guiding principles will draft a formal process. Since Karen is leaving, Phillip volunteered to be part of the group with Donna and Ruth.

Reports

Liaisons - There was only one report received and it is in the packet.

Subcommittees – No reports were given.

By-Laws' Revision – Discussion and more changes needed.

MOTION: Accept revision. (Mike Volpe/Jan Campbell).

DECISION: It was decided more revisions were needed for a vote at the July meeting.

Nominations of Officers

Discussion on the process (procedure in the packet).

Nominations Made:

- Jan nominated Ruth for Chair.
- Jan nominated Scott for Executive Committee (member at large).
- Scott nominated Jan for Vice-Chair.

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- Scot nominated Mike for Executive Committee.
- Jan nominated Donna for Executive Committee.
- Scott reminded members that they can volunteer for self nomination.

July's Agenda Items

Revisions to the already drafted agenda:

- DSAC follow-up discussion.
- Independent Choices' Update with Sue Stoner.
- Request an MMA update.
- Invite GCSS representatives regarding collaboration of issues.
- Expanded requested issues to cover for several speakers.

Adjourned (12:00)