



Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment (GCDE)

Community Outreach Subcommittee Meeting | January 13, 2025, | 4:35-5:23 pm (Zoom)

Minutes (taken by Emily Heike, GCDE Program Specialist II)

1: Welcome to the Community Outreach meeting – call to order – Marsha Cutting, Chair

Meeting called to order by presiding Chair Marsha Cutting at 4:35pm.

2: Roll Call – and known absences (Quorum = 5, excluding staff) – Marsha Cutting, Chair

Present –

Staff: Emily Heike (Program Specialist II), Elaine Stefanowicz (Program Coordinator 3), Elizabeth Gordon (Executive Director)

Members: Dave Carl (Vice-Chair), Marsha Cutting (Chair), Ivyanne Van Der Peet, Lyn Sowdon, Jennifer Simons (partner – Disability Action Center), Lucy Barefoot (partner – Dept. of Children, Youth, & Families), Kenny Salvini (partner - Here & Now Project), Steven McCray.

Absent: Patti Dailey-Shives, Damiana Harper, Susan Matt, Daniel Ledgett, Leslie Purser, Yunus Butt (partner - Eastern Washington University).

Quorum of 5 members met.

3: Housekeeping rules & approve last meeting minutes – Marsha Cutting, Chair

Standard housekeeping rules reviewed (state your name, raise your hand, speak slowly & 1 at a time).

Motion to approve last meeting minutes (December 9, 2024) called by Chair Marsha Cutting. Motion made by Steven McCray. Motion carried by unanimous vote (all in favor). No additions to the agenda.

4: Site selection & partners update for the 2025 event (Spokane) – Marsha Cutting, Chair

- a. Items needed from scouting team (local transport for attendees, catering TBD) – Marsha C. -Hotel, restaurant not needed – GCDE members won't be able to travel to the event

This item will be stricken from the agenda since GCDE Members aside from Steven can't attend in person.

- b. Update on venue/timing for 4/17-18 – City Council Chambers – Marsha C./Steven McCray -Does the room have Zoom capability for GCDE members to join virtually due to the travel freeze?

We will consider rescheduling due to Maundy Thursday/Good Friday's potential impacts on attendance. Steven will reach out to the venue to see what they say about moving it to Thu. & Fri. 4/24-25 or 5/1-2.

- c. Update on reaching out to new partners (Gonzaga, People First, ACAC members, other ideas i.e. tribes, colleges, hospitals for save the date/partnership) – Marsha Cutting/all members

-Provide a quick overview of what ACAC is and overview the typical CO event/format for new partners?

Vision: Locals attend the events in-person, in a room, together. GCDE folks join via video. Stevens County relies on Spokane for most services – may make sense to invite them, also. Something to explore later – consider having a joint ACAC for Stevens & Spokane Counties. The Town Hall meeting will be hybrid, with local Spokane folks facilitating, GCDE supporting. We will need to think thru how we facilitate for a better experience for both groups (i.e. mics/cues/moderators), and prepare in advance, allowing time for technical difficulties in joining. It is recommended to have Stevens Co. folks gather in 1 location and join virtual. Erin Ferrier from the Spokane Center for Independent Living is a tech-savvy Steven's Co. Advocate and may be able to facilitate for that group and find a place for them to gather & attend. The debrief meeting will be online (locals may be able to attend from a restaurant) to pick out the 2-3 main themes from the Town Hall to address with leadership the next morning. The Leadership meeting will also be hybrid at the Council Chambers. We may need to meet with Stevens County separately. We will list the top topics, have the group circulate around to provide input, and then identify where they want to make a commitment, and follow up to check on progress in a couple of months. We will need to think about technology for enabling the maximum participation of all (including those with visual or hearing access needs or English as a second language).

Steven requested to invite Michelle from Future Wise – she is working on an MOU around the same time. Jennifer will get in touch with her if needed. We need to lock down our dates ASAP so as not to conflict with their project. Steven will get in touch with Gonzaga and the ACAC folks again. Marsha can help with emails if she received a list of partners. Jennifer and Steven will connect offline on Thursday.

As a backup plan, if the Chambers aren't available on 4/24-25 or 5/1-2, we may be able to move later into May (pending graduations). Elaine will do research on that and share it out.

Staff had created save-the-dates and decided on a format to use, but now the dates are up in the air. We will find and come back to it. Lucy can translate it into Spanish. Jennifer will send a list of what other languages are most spoken locally. We may have to pay for other translation services. We will add this as a future agenda item.

- d. Update from transit authority board re: shuttle for the Town-Hall attendees in-person? – Steven M.

We may need to identify local agencies with accessible vehicles who can do pickups for us. Please be thinking about this. Jennifer will ask the Senior Center and Special Mobility Services. The Arc may also be a possibility.

- e. Update on Sodexo catering – still available? – Steven M.

We cannot sign a contract for catering for either event, but would still like to have food available. Ideas about who can contribute are welcome. Quiznos provided sandwiches for 50 people at a local event in July – they may be a possibility. We could also consider getting snacks and water at the local Costco, and need to consider Vegan and Gluten Free options. Costco has an online form to fill out and may provide an in-kind donation of snacks and water – Steven has a membership.

- f. Matt has resigned – no update on 2026 Benton/Franklin event

We are not focusing on this right now due to Matt's resignation but Marsha will call him to see if he's still willing to work with us on planning it.

5: Compiling a list of disability organizations with conventions we could attend – any updates on list, other ideas (i.e. MS and Deaf/HoH groups?) – Marsha Cutting/Patti Dailey-Shives

We won't get into this right now, but Patti found a better list, and Marsha will share it via email.

6: Reaching out to other GCDE members who might be able to attend conventions with us (tabled last meeting until list above is completed) – Marsha Cutting

Tabled.

7: Next Meeting date, time, and cadence to be decided – currently 2nd Monday at 4:30pm in Jan. (1/13 at 4:30). Do we want to change or increase in the new year/invite more partners? (Marsha C./all)

We will stick with this time (4:30) for future meetings. We will start meeting on the 2nd and 4th Mondays. Our next meeting will be in 2 weeks (1/27 at 4:30). Marsha will email other partners a formal invite if Steven and Jennifer send her a list.

8: Action items – to be captured in minutes with any pertinent links by minute taker (Emily H).

Meeting adjourned at 5:23pm hearing no objections.

Minutes reviewed on [Jan.] 16, 2025 by:

Chair, Marsha Cutting

Program Specialist II, Emily Heike