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

Community Outreach Subcommittee Meeting | February 24, 2025, | 4:31-5:27 pm

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

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

Meeting called to order by presiding Chair Marsha Cutting at 4:31pm. Greeted all and asked for intros. [Weather may be variable for various folks, Read.ai issue recapped, Marsha needs to leave on time].

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

Present –

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

Members: Dave Carl (Member - Vice-Chair); Susan Matt (Member); Steven McCray (Member – local); Lyn Sowdon (Member); Alicia Lauth (Partner – Spokane ACAC); Aerius Franklin (Local Partner – DACNW); Marsha Cutting (Chair); Jennifer Simons (Local Partner – DACNW); Daniel Ledgett (Member); Damiana Harper (Chair Emeritus - local); Michelle Pappas (Local Partner - Future Wise); Ivyanne Van Der Peet (Member)

Absent: Krista Milhofer/Resa Hayes - local (Partners – People First), Claire & Kenny Salvini (Partners – Here & Now Project), Patti Dailey-Shives (Member – Vice-Chair), Leslie Purser (Member), David Evjen & Yunus Butt (Local Partners - EWU) , Lucy Barefoot (Associate - DCYF), Yvonne Bussler-White (GCDE Chair), Ryan Parrey (Local Partner – Spokane ACAC)

Quorum of 5 members met.

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

Standard housekeeping rules reviewed (state your name for captions & use your camera if possible – no other accommodations needed, raise your hand, speak slowly & 1 at a time).

Marsha called a motion to approve the last minutes - quorum met, Steven moves approval, Dave seconds. Motion to approve minutes carries with no opposition.

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

  a. Update on venue for April – City Council Chambers – Marsha C./Steven M. (member)
  -Does the room have Zoom capability for GCDE members to join virtually due to the travel freeze - confirmed?

The venue has been secured for a couple of months.

Question: *Can we use the venue's Zoom capabilities?*

Answer: *Steven is unsure if we can use their Zoom account (may not be needed – see below), but they do have AV capabilities.*

Needs: *We need an OWL or virtual camera/mic capacity otherwise (OWL not always successful unless facilitated correctly), and our own Zoom account (GCDE has one) for access/use of links. We need to connect to the internet. We need a projector.*

Further Questions: *Can we attach an OWL to the venue equipment (computer, projector)? Is OWL using preferred over the council cams? Do the council cams show the full room, how well do they work for folks participating virtually? Do they have mics?*

Answers so far: *There is 1 camera at the bock, one pointed at the council member seats, and another at the front podium that may be able to be aimed at the crowd. The Dias has a mic, and there is a mic in front center for the crowd.*

Actions: *(Emily: Check licensing req's on GCDE Zoom acct. - capacity). Marsha: Review Council meeting footage to ascertain how well virtual participation works for those not in the room.*

Link to Council meeting footage: *https://my.spokanecity.org/citycouncil/meetings/ or https://my.spokanecity.org/citycouncil/meetings/2025/02/10/legislative-meeting/ (most recent meeting) or on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/spokanecitycouncil/videos*

b. Update on reaching out to new partners [workgroup] (Gonzaga, other ideas i.e. tribes, colleges, hospitals, city, DD, for save the date/partnership) – Marsha Cutting/all

Jennifer has started working on contacts for the invite workgroup (to include former ACAC members, such as Dave Reynolds, and from other groups such as DVR, community members with various disabilities, people from the City, Elections, Auditor's Office, housing, and ODHH who want to attend the event). They are excited to participate.

Jennifer has not sent them information about the event unless they have asked specifically. She did send Lyn a spreadsheet (one with 46+ names, and one with contact info, which Lyn received).

Aerius & Steven provided additional names/phone numbers in chat as follows:

-ARIELLE M. ANDERSON | CITY OF SPOKANE | DIRECTOR | COMMUNITY, HOUSING, AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

-County Commissioner Chris Jordan's phone number is 509-844-7777 if someone wants to reach out to him about being a part of this

- Timm Ormsby 509-939-2048

- Marcus Recellii 509-879-7805

- Zack Zappone 509-251-0982

- Kitty Klitzke 509-879-0775 city council member

Some others we'd been hoping to partner with haven't been connected yet.

Action: Jennifer will work on adding contacts & organizing the spreadsheet further on Tuesday. Marsha (mcutting@gmail.com), Ivy, Lyn, and Dave (daveac12@yahoo.com) provided their emails in chat for coordination (add Steven & Alicia) – Marsha is willing to help.

c.   Update on draft written materials/sharing (save-the-dates/invites)? – Marsha Cutting/staff

Action: *Emily will revise the flyer with the new DAC logo and transport piece and send it to Steven, Jennifer, Alicia, Lyn, and Dave for the invite workgroup – they will connect via email. Marsha will review the invite letters and share with the workgroup. Alicia will share the flyers to the Spokane Community Colleges and elsewhere. Steven has reached out to Eastern and Gonzaga and will share the flyer.*

d.   Translation services for the save-the-date flyer (ESL & D/HoH?) – Marsha Cutting/partners

Actions: *Elizabeth will talk to her supervisor about whether ESD has access to a pre-existing state contract for translation services (such as Dari and Pashto). Alicia will ask the community colleges which languages they provide, refugee centers may be another option (though Jennifer hasn't reached out). Lucy was willing to help with Spanish.* **Note***: We shouldn't offer a translated flyer if we can't also offer spoken translation at the events.* **We will check for an update at the next meeting.** *ASL should be priority. If there are limited numbers needing spoken translation services, perhaps we could do it* **informally** *(folks bring their own).*

e.   Update on local transportation options? – Steven McCray

Jennifer has updates – she spoke with Special Mobility Services (SMS) regarding the shuttle – thinks there is a possibility of securing a shuttle, talked with Steven re: what it would look like, SMS requested to be kept in the loop (it would have to be organized, Jennifer unsure how it would work). May still be a possibility (SMS is contracted transport in Spokane, has a couple shuttles & funding).

Coordination *of a centralized pickup location, loop, or route logistics otherwise may need to be worked out if Special Mobility Services can help.* **Note***: Paratransit has significant wait times.*

Actions: Dave will look at what we did in Clark County, though so far, the Spokane transit authority has been unwilling to help with a shuttle (and ACCESS may not be able to either due to driver shortages, paratransit is strict due to Medicaid rules and generally). Alicia will talk to the Spokane Transit Authority about donating 10-15 bus passes or discounts.

f. Update on obtaining food items? – Marsha Cutting/partners

Emily sent Marsha a list of stuff we've provided in the past (Marsha will look at it again, it may not be sufficient) from Costco. They have an online form to fill out and take in – perhaps there are other grocery stores to ask that would be willing to help if someone can ask.

Action: Marsha will look at the list from Emily and send Jennifer a list of other grocery stores to ask for help.

5: Next Meeting date, time, and cadence decided – all – currently 2nd & 4th Mondays at 4:30pm in Feb-May.

Meeting adjourned at 5:27pm. We will see folks in 2 weeks at 4:30pm on March 10.

Damina will plan to attend both events as a seasoned subcommittee member, in coordination with Steven, and the DAC partners. Marsha is hopeful for a good event, and appreciates the help .