



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

Community Outreach Subcommittee Meeting | July 14th, 2025, | 4:36-5:23 pm

Minutes (taken by Emily Spears, 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 4:36pm.

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

Present:

Staff present: Emily Spears (PSII), Elaine Stefanowicz (PC3), Elizabeth Gordon (ED)

Members present: Marsha Cutting (Chair), Patti Dailey-Shives (Vice-Chair), Daniel Ledgett, Ivyanne Van Der Peet, Lyn Sowdon (joined late)

Guests present: Brendan Kennedy (OBHA)

Members absent: Dave Carl (Member – excused), Steven McCray (Member)

Associates absent: Lucy Barefoot (DCYF)

Quorum of 5 members unmet (Lyn joined late).

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

Standard housekeeping rules reviewed (speak slowly and state your name).

Motion held by Marsha to approve last minutes – quorum unmet.

4: Closeout for the 2025 event (Spokane), next steps – Marsha Cutting

a. Distributing Spokane Town Hall findings report – Marsha/all

Marsha is wondering if we can send it to locals and ask them to let us know if there's anything we can do to support them in trying to address the issues (distribute it and let people do what they will with the info, we could distribute it to electeds in the area as our report/what we learned – need more accessible housing/emergency shelters, etc. We could send it out thru our channels also).

b. Discussing how to move forward: next steps – Marsha/all

a. Visiting state and regional conventions/meetings – list updates – Marsha/all

- i. [Day Out for Autism](#) resource Fair 4/4/26 10-6:30 Marina Pk. Kirkland (state)

1. Marsha isn't sure if this is what she had in mind (lots of resource fair options – would prefer interractional – if available)

Marsha struck out on her assigned organizations. Lyn not initially present to report (joined late), and did not hear back on a couple of voicemails last we heard, but found the event above (didn't recall specifics). Reports still needed from Dave & Steven (not present), and Daniel (left early). Marsha will follow up. Marsha thinks the two blind organizations will likely have their conventions still (Fall/Spring – no info/location right now – she will research before the next meeting). People First will be in Spokane in mid-October (Marsha will attend). Does Brendan know of any orgs in his sphere having conventions? He doesn't, new in the role, but will follow up via email with information about their regional meetings. Marsha knows of a peer support group, but is unsure of conventions (Marsha recapped reasoning for finding conventions again – networking, difficulty with holding events as they were due to budget constraints. To listen and collect information/stories – take notes and offer some possibilities – get info out there for advocacy). The other thing we need to look at is having handouts (sensitive to target communities, for example, we'd need braille for the blind community) for the meetings/conventions – we have items (and a banner for tabling but may be hard to mail) from the past but have been trying to avoid printing/waste, and are not allowed to use QR codes – Elizabeth will check for another option. What about a captioned video – Marsha likes the idea but doesn't know what it would take, has a friend who specializes in this and is looking for work, though we couldn't pay him – but he has a similar vision and may be able to help. We'd have to make sure it's fully accessible (with captions AND ASL/audio descriptions), but Marsha's contact has worked with DRW and may be able to accommodate that. We need something, if we can't do printed or QR, what else is left? Could we repurpose something from others and add our name? Any other ideas? Could we have a sign in sheet and people could include their contact info to get more info? Would we be speakers, attendees, tabling at the conventions? Is a script appropriate? Yes (though it doesn't currently exist, so we'd likely need 30 min. to create a brainstorming workgroup for ideas – then staff could create it and send back for input. We could brainstorm now). Hopefully we could get a short speaking slot to introduce ourselves and a spot to be.

What should be in the script? [Ivy needs to leave early but is willing to help]

-Who we are

-How to become a member

-How long we've been around/how we got started

-Can Elizabeth create a paragraph on the history? Yes, she found it recently when researching.

-Lyn may be able to help also – involved from 98-01 – legislative existed back then, and Awards (former staff), no youth. We may not be able to get super detailed.

-What we've been working on (current transition)/have done in the past – Marsha could do this too

-Information on ACAC/when it was created/promotion. Marsha could work on this piece - add call to action.

-Brief overview of other programs otherwise (youth, legislative, Awards, etc.) – may be able to steal from website (Emily will look at the website, Elaine can help review the operations manual too).

Patti will proofread.

Meeting adjourned at 5:23pm, hearing nothing else.

5: Next Meeting date, time, and cadence– subcommittee members – currently 2nd Mondays at 4:30pm.

Next meeting date would be Monday, August 11th at 4:30pm. See you then (hopefully we can have the script for review in advance by then).

ACTIONS:

- We should send the report to locals and ask if there's anything we can do to support them in addressing the concerns, and also send to electeds in the area, and distribute through our channels as well.
- Marsha will follow up with Dave, Steven, and Daniel about researching their assignments from the statewide organizations list for conventions.
- Marsha will attend the People First Convention in Spokane in October.
- Marsha will research the two blind organization conventions before the next meeting.
- Brendan will follow up via the GCDE email to share more about their regional meetings (done).
- Elizabeth was asked to see if there is a QR code alternative we can use.
- Marsha will check with her friend who made videos for Rooted in Rights about the ability to do an accessible video.
- Folks will work on the script as assigned above before the next meeting.