



Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment
Coordinating Committee Meeting
Friday, September 18, 2026 , 10:00am-11:30am
via Zoom

Minutes

10:00: Welcome, call to order, roll call, housekeeping: Cullyn Foxlee, GCDE Vice-Chair (5 min)

Call to order: Meeting called to order by GCDE Vice-Chair Cullyn Foxlee at 10:15am.
Welcome to all. Quick icebreaker: what are you looking forward to for Fall?

Agenda approved with seconds from Brit & Kristin, & minutes tabled for next meeting (send in advance).

Present: Emily Spears; Elizabeth Gordon; Elaine Stefanowicz (staff)
Patti Dailey-Shives (Leg. Chair); Steve Lewis (AC Chair); Cullyn Foxlee (Vice-Chair); Brit Nuckles (EWG Chair); Autumn Harris (YEP Vice-Chair); Kristin DiBiase (YEP Chair); Amy Cloud (MAL)
Quorum = 6: met.

Add commentary timing to housekeeping.

Announcements: we will be soliciting nominations for MALs at our October GM meeting (more later). Process reviewed – selections will take place at our November meeting. New member & chair recruitment happening now – let us know if you have any good candidates and spread the word (more to come). Legislative process discussion to come.

10:05: updates from Chairs – 1 hour (10 mins each)

- *Accessible Communities – Steve Lewis*
 - **Working on:** All-county meeting planned for 10/7/26 from 3:30-5pm. Survey sent to counties to plan agenda, due 9/25. Reinvigorating inactive ACACs.
 - **Ask:** Members reaching out to contacts in their local area to help start ACACs. It is slow going.
- *Community Outreach – Emily Spears*

- **Working on:** a fact sheet on ACAC's to be published by end-of-year.
- **Ask:** subcommittee members asked for content suggestions & volunteer roles (vice-chair backup needed, draft content, coordinate design, review & proof, check accessibility).
- *Employment Workgroup – Brit Nuckles*
 - **Working on:** a fact sheet/presentation on WLAD to be published by end-of-year. Timeline is a bit behind due to last month's meeting cancellation. Low on members, but we got a couple new folks to move forward.
 - **Ask:** subcommittee members asked for content suggestions, partner contacts, & volunteer roles (vice-chair backup needed, draft content, coordinate design, review & proof, check accessibility).
- *Legislative – Patti Dailey-Shives*
 - **Working on:** New process to ID leg. priorities prior to session. Continuing to do training. It is a long, budget session. Elizabeth will continue to track legislation this session.
 - **Ask:** Complete [survey](#) to vote on top 3 priorities by 9/23 (reviewed). Consider attending a meeting.
- *Membership – Elaine Stefanowicz*
 - **Working on:** Member & chair recruitment, deadline October 13. 3 Member applications so far.
 - **Ask:** Members asked to share the recruitment [press release](#) & let Elaine know if they are interested in volunteering on the subcommittee to review applications & interview candidates. Think about how we can target a younger demographic.
- *Youth Empowerment – Kristin DiBiase*
 - **Working on:** Paused youth advisory council project (bandwidth issues). Partnering with CILS on online events for youth with disabilities. Couple of new members. Brief update on bar exam accommodation issues/advocacy letter as an employment issue (unfortunately, ineffective).
 - **Ask:** Work on partnering with CIL's to host online events for youth with disabilities – check out [Mockingbird Society](#). Consider attending the next meeting on 10/2 at 10am to talk about the youth ideas.

11:05: Break (10 min)

Please return at 11:15. Skipped in interest of time.

11:15: General Updates (10 min):

- *New member mentoring (Elizabeth Gordon)*

- Mentors were asked to report on their mentorship progress & let us know if there are any concerns. Setting a meeting cadence might be helpful.
- Please be cognizant of ensuring an equal experience for all mentees with regards to travel & in-person meetings, and participate at your own comfort level.
- *General Membership agenda (Elizabeth Gordon)*
 - Elizabeth shared her screen with the October GM agenda. Let us know if you have suggestions for the February meeting. Will be moving to quarterly this year.

11:25: Recap next steps: Cullynn Foxlee, GCDE Vice-Chair (5 min) – captured in minutes in interest of time.

Minutes recapped next steps as follows:

- AC: Members reaching out to contacts in their areas to help start ACACs. Planning for all-county ACAC meeting on 10/7.
- CO: ACAC fact sheet content creation, design coordination, proofing & review, accessibility check, vice-chair role.
- EWG: WLAD fact sheet/presentation content creation, partner contacts, design coordination, proofing & review, accessibility check, vice-chair role.
- Leg: Vote on your top 3 priorities (due 9/23) before the subcommittee meeting on 9/25/26 at 9am.
- MS: share the press release and let Elaine know if you want to participate on the subcommittee. Deadline for applications is 10/13.
- YEP: Continue to partner with CILs on online events for youth with disabilities. Discuss youth ideas at the next meeting.
- Mentors: let us know if any issues arise & be cognizant of creating an equal experience/participating at your comfort level.
- GM: Let us know if you have suggestions for the February meeting. Note quarterly schedule for next year. Consider a roundtable outside of GM. Add Olmstead explainer from Brit (time TBD, **coordinate via email**). Can shorten Cullynn's presentation if needed.

11:30: Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

*Note: Next Coordinating Committee Meeting: November 20, 2026, **10:00am-12:00pm***