



STATE OF WASHINGTON

GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY ISSUES AND EMPLOYMENT

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Accessible Communities (AC) Minutes March 15, 2023, 4:30-5:30 pm

1. AC Subcommittee Member Roll Call:

**Warren Weissman, Chair; Clarence Eskridge, Vice-Chair;
Lucy Barefoot, Cullyn Foxlee, Christa Hewitt.**

**New GCDE Members: Dave Carl and Simon Calcavecchia
Staff: Elaine Stefanowicz, Program Coordinator**

2. Approval of February Meeting Minutes. Minutes approved as written.

3. Updates:

**a. Initiative to establish additional ACACS and joint
DAC/ACACs. There are 14 out of 39 counties that
currently have ACACs (Walla Walla and Columbia
Counties have a joint ACAC). Lucy Barefoot works for
the Secretary of State's Office and is a GCDE associate
member; she does outreach work for voting access. She
said that all counties are required by law to have a
Disability Advisory Committee (DAC). She will check
which counties have a DAC and/or ACAC. She asked
members to help reach out to counties in their area.**

b. Budget and financial performance numbers:

Warren met with Elizabeth to discuss the AC budget. The State's Office of Financial Management (OFM) sets a \$200,000 cap per fiscal year for funds drawn from the AC account at the State Treasury. Funds are used to pay GCDE expenses related to AC, to reimburse ACACs for reasonable accommodations and other expenses, and for AC grants to projects submitted by ACACs.

Elizabeth is working with an ESD budget analyst to develop a cash flow report that would be available to the AC Subcommittee at each monthly meeting. By showing the utilization of funds and the remaining budget availability, this would enable AC to make decisions based on better information than currently available.

4. Discussion of Proposed Revision to Grant Procedures:

It was previously discussed that only considering smaller grants (under \$10,000) might be missing the potential impact of larger grants. Based on ideas from Damiana Harper and Clarence Eskridge, Warren developed a draft proposal for two funding tracks: larger grants over \$10,000 awarded once per year and smaller grants under \$10,000 awarded twice per year. Details of approval procedures under the two-track concept were discussed.

Warren will incorporate comments gathered during the meeting into an AC procedure document and bring it to the April 19 AC meeting for a vote. The objective is to implement new procedures for the fiscal year starting on July 1, 2023. Until then, we will continue with our current grant procedures.

5. Spring 2023 Grant Approval Cycle

- a. Proposal deadline is March 31, 2023**
- b. Elaine will create a list of tentative 2023 dates for presentations and discussions.**
- c. Cullyn shared her experience of being the lead reviewer for a project proposal. She suggested choosing a lead reviewer who has experience in the grant subject area if possible.**

Next AC Subcommittee Meeting:

April 19, 2023, at 4:30 pm