

Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment (GCDE)
Community Outreach Subcommittee | October 3, 2023, | 4:00-5:00 pm

Minutes

1: Welcome to the Community Outreach meeting – Meeting called to order by Marsha at 4:03pm.

Welcome all. Checking in with folks. Hopefully more folks will join. Pause for interpreter sound check. Confirmation about meeting link and those joining us. Moving on with meeting.

2: Roll Call – Present: Emily, Ryan, Elizabeth, interpreter (staff); Matt, Eric, Carley, Ivyanne, Patti, Zach, Marsha, Corey, David, and Nathan. Missing; Andy and Daniel. Excused: Damiana.

3: Housekeeping rules – reminder to identify yourself before speaking and speak slowly for the interpreter.

4: Recap of September 26 meeting – Flyer has been finalized and sent for folks to distribute as widely as possible, which is currently a big push. JPEG issue fixed as of last week (including alt text to post on Facebook). Confirmation if folks received it. Interpreter check. Some folks did not receive it due to internet issues. Corey from WADHH put their email in chat (Ryan will send the flyer as opposed to Marsha).

5: Community Partner Briefings on Clark County – Marsha spent last week and the weekend gathering info on social services in Clark Co. Nathan joined. They are in rough format (cut and paste). Videos off for folks (clarification – maybe an error – working again). Some folks off by choice. Dave's hand up. Response about social services. Just received Marsha's email. Hasn't looked at it in depth, but from what he saw, it looked good. Carley didn't send her contact list to everyone, just to Ryan, and got in touch with her DDA case manager who sent her all kinds of local services, so she has been communicating with Ryan (Ryan confirmed receipt). Ryan, Emily, and Elizabeth have a major event in Wenatchee this week (needs to be their primary focus this week). Subcommittee members can continue work in the background upon their return. The purpose of the list is to send them the letters and flyers to post. Have others been posting it? Carley has on social media, Dave is sharing too, as well as a hand from Patti. Patti shared it with a contact in the 18th LD and the county LPO (active community there – WSAD too). They are working hard to get it distributed and hopefully we will have a good turnout. The more, the better. Marsha wondered if Ryan knew how many folks had registered so far. Unfortunately, not too many, 8 in-person and 3 virtual. Marsha doesn't think that's too bad at a month out, and hopefully they can help us spread the word. Patti said folks may wait until the last minute in certain groups. Carley thinks we should keep it open so folks don't have to register, which we've done, since a lot of people may just show up so she wouldn't worry about it. Mention in the chat about turning off the camera for those not using interpreters. Confirmed by Ryan, Zach, and Corey. Folks concurred in chat and can have them on if speaking. Ryan responded to Carley – there is only a certain capacity in meeting room (120-150) – if we expect more than that, we won't have seats available, 150 people is the max and we don't want to have to turn folks away if we're at capacity – so that needs to be considered. Marsha checked with Damiana who has been to multiple events, and the most we've ever gotten is 80-85 people and that was before hybrid meetings, so would be surprised if we go over that and wouldn't mind. Carley thought we may get 100 people max in her thoughts and concurs with Marsha.

6: Town Hall Meeting Logistics – new agenda item. It's an interesting question. We've not done much about this. But it is a critical element. Among other things, we'll need 2 sets of interpreters, in-person (section off an area) and on the Zoom. This is taken care of, per Ryan. Marsha wondered what we need to discuss under this topic. CART has been taken care of also, per Ryan. Otherwise, it is planning to assign tasks (see below), such as a facilitator, notetaker, presenter, hand monitor, and tech support; there are lots of things needing to happen during the in-person meeting – those sorts of things. Marsha will likely facilitate. Hopefully Patti can take notes again (they will be dealing with the Owl, so may not be able to do both, but per Patti once it is set up it should just work). Patti was a table facilitator last time – that is for breakfast, Marsha confirmed. Patti can take notes, then. Marsha wondered if she needed to bring a separate laptop. Patti has two and can use one for notes. Elizabeth's hand is up. She mentioned it may be helpful to have more than 1 person taking notes. Marsha feels it should be a subcommittee member and not a partner if possible, and asked folks present if they could help. Hearing nothing. Ivyanne emailed Ryan, she will be out of the country during the event, but is helping with the pre-event work and not the event. Marsha appreciates the heads up. Elizabeth can help, Matt asked for clarification. Nathan may be able to help too. Marsha can check for hands as she facilitates in person, but someone will need to check on the Zoom. Matt is happy to help. Ryan's hand is up. He wondered if Matt and Nathaniel would be present in-person, then. Nathan is still unsure as of yet, but hopes to know this week. Matt had not planned on being there in-person. Elizabeth thinks having someone virtually to provide support for any access needs virtually could be handy (notes also). We may have people participating both ways and the notes don't need to be super detailed. Clarification about Matt watching virtual hands. Confirmed. Dave, Eric, and Ryan met yesterday evening to go over logistics for after the Town Hall to prep for the LAP. Eric was going to do some scouting of hotels and restaurants. It's not on the agenda, but can Eric discuss this? Eric did not have a chance to look today, but Ryan sent a suggestion about Comfort Inn. Driving by it looks okay from the outside, Ryan might have contacted them and asked some specific questions. There is a Black Angus Steakhouse next-door in the same parking lot that looks a little rough from the outside. Eric called to confirm that they were open for business since it was hard to tell, they are, but they don't have any meeting rooms. He recapped his other comments. It is relatively close to the meeting location and the CTRAN public transportation (there are a few blocks to go, but folks could get a ride, it is maybe 10-12 blocks). The other hotel he looked at was the Hilton east of 205, it is great hotel, and does have rooms available for rent at \$250 for a half day – and a McGrath Fish House restaurant half a block away with a sort of private meeting room in the back that can be rented for free with a reservation, and is also along the CTRAN route, there's a stop 2 blocks down from hotel, and 7-8 blocks from the meeting location (another route takes you right to the meeting location for drop off). That is his update, he can answer any questions. Patti and Ryan had hands up. Patti thinks that the Hilton likely has an elevator, but wanted to check on the Comfort Inn, to be accessible. Eric will let Ryan speak to that since he thinks Ryan contacted them. Over to Ryan. The Comfort Inn has 9 floors, so they likely they have an elevator per Marsha, Ryan confirmed. They also have 25 ADA rooms. The restaurant next door is open until 11pm (opposite McGrath that closes at 9p). That may not be long enough. There is also free breakfast from Comfort Inn, with hot and cold food. The parking is adequate. It is secure and shared with other nearby facilities. They have improved and setup or remodeled the rooms before COVID. The train system that makes it accessible for people using a power chair. We can think about any other accessibility needs. Eric with a comment? No. Sounds good to Marsha. Getting background noise from Corey (apologies – got another call). Comfort Inn may be the best bet. Eric had concerns about the restaurant. He believes it is a franchise or chain. It didn't appear to

be open, but he did call, the sign is faded (no lights on in the early afternoon – looked a little rough). As long as that doesn't bother anyone, he confirmed that they are open, and if you are familiar with Black Angus and what they offer then he thinks it would be fine. Marsha is not, personally, but there seem to be a lot of them. She wonders if she can pull up reviews. Patti is familiar, they are all over, they ate at one in Spokane last week and have one where they live. It is a mid-range steakhouse, similar to Outback, you can get a decent steak for \$30. It 4 stars on Google, per Elizabeth. Ryan wondered about the price and sizing. Patti had a 12 oz NY strip, and it was \$30, \$26 for an 8 oz top sirloin, and goes up from there. Filet Mignon is \$36, and prime rib \$38. Marsha believes we may have vegetarians in the group. Ryan is hungry now. They do have things other than steak, per Patti, but that is their primary thing. Patti doesn't know about the vegetarian options, but does know that they have large salads, though. Marsha thinks we should go with that, unless we find issues, or something better. It's good to be making progress.

7: Post Town Hall Meeting Planning Logistics – new agenda item. See above, that pretty much covers it per Marsha, if we are close to the meeting venue and can just head there (to the restaurant) for those that want to eat that late (some don't), that should work well she believes.

8: Task Assignment on Clark County Master Contacts – Marsha wondered if we are ready to go with this yet. Pause for Ryan. Going back to the above. Did we make a clear decision – is it going to be Comfort Inn for the hotel, or the Double Tree by Hilton east of 205, have we made a final decision? Drifting toward Comfort Inn per Marsha, partly because the restaurant by the Hilton is only open until 9pm and the meeting ends at 7:30, so by the time we get over there, she doesn't think it would work well even though it would be her preference. It is advantageous to be close to the meeting location, so we don't have to worry about transportation. Any objections? Patti wondered what time the Black Angus closed, 11pm, per Ryan and Eric. The one Patti was at last week closed earlier. There are 4 stars for the steak house (clarification – not the hotel) on google.

9: Clark County CTRAN follow up or discussion – Dave seemed to have dropped off the call. Clarification from Ryan, so it would seem, per Marsha. It could be an internet issue, perhaps he will rejoin per Zach, hopefully he will (Marsha concurs). Ryan hasn't received any emails from him. There are 15 minutes left. Matt will try to text him, per Marsha. Thanks, per Ryan. Dave rejoined and asked Marsha to repeat the question. They (CTran) keep suggesting different options, per Dave. They are suggesting the different things that they provide. He submitted all the paperwork and is waiting to hear back as far as the shuttling. Since we are going with the Comfort Inn, we won't need transport assistance, it will just be local people with disabilities to get to the in-person meeting. Onto the next item.

10: Other Action Items – see notes above and below for a consolidated list. Please look at the list of social services email from Marsha, see who's missing, and let us know as soon as possible so we can invite them. Getting letters out is the main task at this point. We have gotten a lot done in this meeting and Marsha is grateful for folks attention. We haven't talked about the breakfast for the LAP, per Marsha. We had done some checking with HS programs, she thought, to see if we could find a transition program or similar that taught restaurant skills and could do the breakfast but didn't find anyone. Does anyone have thoughts on who could cater? Pause for Marsha. Corey is a good cook apparently. Jokes aside, a hand up from Eric. A friend of his owns a breakfast restaurant in the area, he could reach out to him to see if he does catering. Dave lost connection but is back on. It is the Kitchen Table Café, he'll ask. We have been looking for something that is owned by or employs marginalized communities. The owner

is in a wheelchair, per Eric. Patti likes the food. Carley concurs. Quite a few of the staff are Hispanic as well, Eric believes. Eric wonders how many people and if it is just the 1 day. Friday morning Nov 3, per Marsha. The question of how many people is a good one. Pause. We would need to know that. Ryan's hand, speaking to this question, or another? Up to 50 people, per Ryan. There were 44 last year. Confirming cafe name. The Kitchen Table café is correct. Marsha confirming on the count in Port Orchard, yes, per Ryan. Pause. Marsha said all local partners are invited to the LAP; it is important to have them there to keep folks accountable. Matt needs to leave. It bothered Marsha in the past that it was just elected and leaders, not PWD at the LAP, involved in the planning. She is opposed to doing it that way, PWD need to have a voice in the planning, otherwise ideas may not address the problem. Many folks work day jobs, but if they can join us, that would be good. Carley can. Dave's hand is up. He can attend as well. Clarification about Marsha's comment for folks. Do we want people served by the agencies, or people on the committee at the LAP. Eric's hand is up. Marsha thanks him for the question. We are primarily thinking of people acting as local partners with us. Not just GCDE members. People like Dave, Eric, Carley, Zach, Corey, and others. Not everyone in the community. Eric wondered where it would be hosted. It will be at the same venue as the Town Hall - Commissioners Chambers in the Public Service Center on Franklin St. In light of this, Marsha is not averse to adding recognized leaders in the disability community that we think should be included, please let us know and we will try to include them. Carley wondered if local agencies would be invited, such as DDA case managers, etc. Marsha believes so. Carley asked because their DDA case manager asked them. She asked them not to share until she knew. Marsha said it wouldn't be everyone, but we may want a couple folks. In some cases, the agencies may decide who they want to be there and represent them, which is fine too. 5 minutes left, over to Dave for CTRAN update (see above). 4 minutes left, anything else? Eric clarified that while staying at the new hotel, are we assuming that people are going to walk or roll to the center, or are they be getting CTRAN. Matt won't be joining us, Marsha can use her chair, she doesn't know Daniel's plans and doesn't think he's a chair user. It is 8-10 blocks away, and it may be rainy or cold, just as a consideration. Patti has ADA plates and can help folks with rides, she won't be walking, uses a walker. Dave said if we have folks coming into town who are paratransit eligible, they can contact their township, and have their paratransit contact CTRAN and submit a letter of eligibility to get CVAN which is the paratransit. Carley needs to go. The CVAN requirement is within ¾ mile of a bus stop, which it sounds like it would be, so CVAN might be an option. Dave uses that when he travels. That is all for today, thanks everyone, see you next week. Zach wants the flyer please and will chat with Corey and send it out. Is he meeting with Ryan and Corey? No, but Ryan will send the flyer, after the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

11: Next Action steps – Collecting contacts, sending out the letter, then distributing the flyer.

12: Next Meeting date will be from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 (weekly until event). *Town Hall flyer update and Clark County Per Diem removed from agenda.*

Town Hall and Leadership Action Planning Meeting Location Info:

Public Service Center at 1300 Franklin Street, 6th Floor Suite 680/679

Vancouver, WA 98660

Hotel: To be determined (Comfort Inn as of today's meeting)