

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

Awards subcommittee meeting

January 13, 2023

11 am to 12 noon

Minutes

- 1. Welcome** – after a brief period of checking in with everyone, and wishing Ryan a happy birthday, Yvonne called the meeting to order at 11:03am as the new Chair (and mentioned that Matt is her new Vice Chair). A couple folks let people know that those participating in the Legislative Workgroup meeting may be joining late.
- 2. Roll Call** – Present were Yvonne, Mike on the phone, Matt, Kevin, Daniel, Amy, Clarence, Pat, ASL interpreter, Ryan, Emily, Cullyn once she received the correct link, and Lucas. Tammy was excused.
- 3. Housekeeping Rules** – everyone was asked if they had a chance to review the agenda, and if there were any additions. None were heard. People were also asked to introduce themselves prior to speaking, and raise their hands.
- 4. Awards Event Date and Location** – Yvonne shared that leadership met about this last week, and that they feel it would be best to have this cemented early, not mid-year. They proposed having it in North Central WA, such as Wenatchee, Moses Lake, or Yakima. There is a convention center that is accessible, hotel, and airport there. This would help get participation, involvement, and representation from Eastern WA. Ryan was tasked to check on the schedule for the first couple of Fridays in October to ensure there were no conflicts. He had not yet had a chance to do so as he was working on a report until yesterday, but we can do so today. This would be the 6th or 13th. Emily shared that there is a Legislative Workgroup meeting on the 13th, so the 6th may be best. There does not appear to be any other commission meetings scheduled that day yet. It was noted that Columbus, or Indigenous People's Day, is on the following Monday the 9th. It was mentioned that we will need to figure out transportation. Cully and Pat will work on this. All expressed their vote in agreement. Kevin moved to approve the date, and Matt seconded. The motion passed. The same went for the

location. It was mentioned that we usually increase meeting frequency to twice per month in April through July, and weekly in August. Since we will be holding the event at the beginning of October instead of the end, it was suggested that we move to more frequent meetings in July instead.

- 5. Nominations Application Packet Review Workgroup** – We would like to revamp and streamline the nomination process, as we have received feedback that it is difficult. 60 people started the process in 2022, but only 15 completed it. We have heard that it is a fairly cumbersome process, and it's likely that some people thought they had finished it, when in fact they had not – so we would like to simplify it. Cullynn offered to work on this and inquired about the timeline. Amy also volunteered to help with this, alongside staff. Emily shared that typically we launch the nomination packet alongside our May general membership meeting. It was suggested that we launch in April since the ceremony will be earlier. Ryan mentioned that the earlier we can start and finish, the better, and that he would coordinate meetings – but Fridays are out due to other commitments for staff.
- 6. Sponsorship Level Info Workgroup** – Matt will be leading this process. Pat, Clarence, and Yvonne also offered to help. The group will connect this weekend. We will need to consider the added costs of travel to Eastern WA, along with booking the venue. We altered the process and information slightly already last year, so Matt doesn't think it should take long to revise, unless people want to revamp the whole thing – which could be considered. Otherwise, we will likely use the same format as we have in the past, and just make small tweaks or minor edits unless people have other thoughts. If not, it should likely be fairly quick to go through. It was noted that we will likely need to complete this process ASAP this month as companies are budgeting for the new year now. The letter was included in the materials that went out in advance of the meeting, and should likely aim to be sent out ASAP, so revisions should be submitted soon. Ryan shared that he started a spreadsheet for last year that can likely be added to. A number of organizations declined to sponsor last year such as T-Mobile, and BECU, in part because of the timing. Only 4 agreed to sponsor, DVR, Microsoft, Auntie Anne's, and WSECU. We should likely note this in our spreadsheet, along with their reason for declining as well, if applicable. It was noted that just because there is a decline one year, does not mean that will necessarily be

the case the following year, however some organizations have restrictions about donating to government agencies. It was asked if private, individual donations could also be considered. Yvonne will start working on a list of local organizations and partners we could consider. Some suggestions were Home Depot, Lowe's, Walmart, CRP's, and colleges. The goal is to have the list, and revised letter and levels ready to send out next Friday, 1/20. It was suggested that we skip the research and be a bit less discerning about who we send it out to in the hopes of getting more letters out, since people can always decline. Some requests have to be filled out online, and Lucas will help Ryan with this.

7. **Next steps** - Cullyn and Pat will start figuring out transportation to the Convention Center in Wenatchee. Cullyn and Amy will work alongside staff to revise the nomination packet. Clarence, Matt, Yvonne, and Pat will start compiling possible sponsorship organizations and editing the documents.
8. **Next meeting date and time: Friday, February 10, 2023** – people were thanked for their time, ideas, and participation. It was a productive meeting and folks are excited for the new year. We have a solid plan to get things started early and be successful. The meeting was adjourned.