

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

Special Community Outreach Subcommittee Team Meeting June 27, 2023, 4:00-5:00 pm

Minutes

1: Welcome to the Community Outreach meeting – Meeting called to order by Marsha at 4:02pm. **We will move ahead, and others may join later. Lilly has to depart early.**

2: Roll Call – Present: Emily, Ryan, Dave, Matt, Interpreter, Lilly, Carley, Simon, and Marsha. Mario also joined for the first time. Daniel also joined. Damiana as well. Andy did join. **Patti and Amy excused. Zach not present.**

3: Housekeeping rules – **Speak slowly and identify yourself prior to speaking (good reminder for all).**

4: Recap of June 13th meeting – **Emily to take minutes today.** Marsha recapped that community partners did not receive the info about the last meeting due to an email glitch, they were missed, we're glad they are here today.

Matt moves to approve the minutes from our last meeting, and Dave seconds. All in favor. None opposed, no abstentions. **Last Minutes approved as written.**

To recap, originally were looking at Ridgefield, dissuaded by community partners 2 meetings ago out of a concern that there may not be many PWD living there due to housing prices, as well as transportation.

Decision made to move to Vancouver. Tentatively settled on library as a venue. Is on a number of bus routes, and close to the Amtrak station (good for GCDE members too). **Good transportation options.**

Carley wondered if we got **timing from the library**, remembered that someone was going to contact them. Dave called them during the meeting last time, and would have to double check times again.

The person he talked to at the library said they could make an exception even if they were closed, they do that for meetings at times. That does underscore the urgency of picking a date sooner than later.

Last time we were looking at either November 2-3 or Oct 26-27. ASAP, we need to find out if there are any conflicts in the local community.

Carley doesn't know of any, and asked around. Lilly does not either, but may be out of the loop as well. Marsha wondered about disability organizations.

National Council of the Blind chapter and American Council for the Blind chapters meet monthly. Also, a Developmental Disability board for the county. Lilly doesn't know the frequency of those meetings.

Carley wondered if we want those folks to attend, or just don't want conflict. It is both, per Marsha.

Carley mentioned a Darla H. who runs a disability organization called Peace in Clark County that covers housing, employment, etc. (connection hub).

Dave may know those folks. That is how they met. Dave confirmed. Marsha asked Carley to repeat the name, and Lilly asked for the name of the organization in the chat.

Andy was not present yet to report on school board meetings. **Nor Patti.** Marsha asked Ryan to contact Andy. Ryan hasn't heard from Andy but hopes he can join. He will resend the link to him per Marsha.

Nothing in chat yet. **We need to check a number of groups.** Dave is on the board for **Peace** (Marsha wondered when they met). **Per Dave it is the 3rd Monday virtually.** It shouldn't be a problem on Monday.

Does Lilly know when AFB and NFB meet? 2nd and 4th Saturdays she believed (definitely Saturdays). Mario confirmed on NFB 2nd Saturday. Isn't sure about ACB. **ACB is 3rd Sat** (e.g., July 15, etc.). **2nd for NCB.**

Thursday and Friday would likely be our event days, unless we change that, so we should be good. Nov 2-3 or Oct 26-27 current options, preferences or reasoning for 1 over the other?

Nov 2-3 farther away, gives us more time, per Lilly. Damiana says **WCB convention is the end of October, people may be traveling. NFB is usually the weekend after, but may be different this year.**

It will be smaller. Big convention will be in March at the Heathman Lodge. Less of a conflict on Nov 2-3. Dave wanted to confirm October dates, but conflicts with WCB meeting. Thurs and Fri.

Emily wondered about Nov 16-17. Marsha thought the concern that it was close to Awards. Ryan confirmed about Awards concern. **Nov 16-17 is the GCDE GM meeting (conflict).**

Elizabeth said we could move that last time. Damiana confirmed that Awards is Oct 6, so Nov 16-17 would be farther away (not in Oct).

Dave is on the library website calendar. Can we recap dates, and we can look now? Nov 2-3, Nov 16-17. 2nd 6pm-7pm conflict. 16th 10:30am-12:30pm. Nothing on 17th.

That might be better if we can move the GM meeting. Carley wondered if we were talking about the library dates or the conflicting dates.

Marsha clarified that we are **looking at the event dates (2-3, 16-17).** Dave is checking library availability then. Carley understood. Thanks for asking. **Nothing on Friday the 3rd per Dave at the library.**

Emily wondered about moving the first week of December because of the other Nov holidays. Marsha is concerned about holiday events in December so would rather keep it in November.

Marsha wondered what room the events were in. Lilly wondered what we need from Clark Co transport.

Marsha said we are trying to find what bus routes are still operating on Thursday evenings, and ask if there is any way that they can supplement those.

It wouldn't be Clark Co per Lilly, but C-TRAN. Marsha misspoke, she meant to say C-TRAN. Lilly wondered who we want to come, people from transit?

Marsha clarified that first and foremost it is people with disabilities, including someone from transport, other disability organizations, and elected officials.

(Such as commissioners, councilors [different jurisdictions]), to get a sense of the issues – both Vancouver and the county. It will be a county-wide event (to include outlying areas).

Ryan is grateful for the info. He hasn't heard from Andy yet. Locally to Marsha, school boards meet on Tuesday, and we likely won't avoid all conflicts. Marsha will text Andy.

Lilly raised her hand and talked about Here and Now counterpart in Portland (8 miles away).

Lilly will pass the word along in that group once we nail down the date, since even if not all WA residents, we still want to hear their concerns. Lilly is a part of that group and will pass it along.

Schools for the Blind and Deaf are in Vancouver. They may have conflicts, but would likely have people interested in participating. Does Mario work at WSSB? He works there, not for them, for DSB.

He would be happy to reach out to them. We don't want to conflict with them either. He will look at the calendar. 16th-17th, 2nd and 3rd. Waiting for Dave on rooms at library.

Does Ryan have any contacts at School for the Deaf? Yes, he will check for contacts. Dave is on the website, the 16th conflict is part of the library system, but the event is in Washougal (not Vancouver).

So that one wouldn't be a problem. Avenue C is main library in Vancouver. There are many in the county. Dave will check 2nd and 3rd. Virtual 2nd. White Salmon Valley on the 3rd, also not an issue.

Both sets of dates available. Dave is involved with C-TRAN and did contact them after the last meeting about Ridgefield, for example. Latest that they run there is 5:30pm, so folks would have a hard time.

Would they be willing to supplement for this meeting (similar to what ACAC in Kitsap Co does for trail rides, when outside of normal operating hours you can use paratransit, even if you don't typically use it).

They can take you there and back. **There is a monthly C-TRAN meeting this Thursday so Dave will ask them then.** That way he can have Face to Face time with those in charge there.

We may be able to do hybrid, but want people there, too. Lilly wondered if Ridgefield should be contacted. Clarification - As many suburbs as possible. We want officials there.

Lilly will invite the Ridgefield city manager once a date is decided. City Council there has a conflict. Doesn't hurt to invite them. Meets 6:30pm 1st and 3rd Thursday due to holidays (Town Hall conflict).

Does Andy have the school boards list? He has most of it. Some dates changing upon election cycle. (General Election at end of November). **Looking at Clark County.** Andy researched them all.

To go to Clark, it is every other Friday (are there more than 1?). Usually, they seemed to be around the same time.

Most of Clark districts, meet Friday. During the day or night? Night, 4-6. Actually, Thursday nights from 4-6, not Friday. No wait, 5-7pm, not 4-6. Not optimal, but not impossible (Town Hall conflict).

No perfect solution. School boards are local compared to another services county wide, willing to work with that. No strong reason for 2nd-3rd vs 16th-17th.

Does Ryan have the list from Patti (was checking about Councils). Wasn't in last minutes. Ryan can't recall details, but will follow up on that and send it out. Can he look for it later? Do we need it now?

He will check afterwards, only 15 minutes left today, will send later. Still pending info on Vancouver and Camas, wasn't sent last time. Ridgefield only conflict so far. Commissioners will be important to know.

Lilly did send info on PWD related catering groups (is checking). Culinary school at Clark College? Have heard it is good, sold on campus.

Paper Tiger Coffee Roasters worked with Blind School, is unsure if they provide that service. Have used culinary programs thru High School voc. programs in the past as well, per Damiana.

Before, they did it for free (not a given, but a possibility). Near closing. If Marsha had to choose, would pick Nov. 2nd-3rd due to 16th-17th being between holidays. Would like to tentatively do it in that order.

Mario reported that nothing on the 2nd at 3rd at Blind School. Trustees meeting on 16th, that is all. No NFB convention end of October, or AFB the 1st weekend of Nov.

Will need coffee for Fri, Paper Tiger was nominated for a GCDE Award recently. Carley wondered Town Hall topics. Transportation, etc.? 3 primaries are usually transport, employment, housing.

Caregiving may also come up where needed. Top 3 are usually selected (others can be proposed). A few are anticipated. Local partners to take the lead on framing that.

Housing, transport, employment may be top 3, open to input. Carley can help, especially employment. Awards is on 6th of October, at Clark College? Will be in Wenatchee this year. That is correct.

Another ceremony from Emily Harris for Supported Employment (was invited last year). May be county instead of state (familiar name – WiSE). SE is managed by County. Our event date Nov 2-3 at library.

Can Dave confirm with them (16th-17th backup). He will do that for the big room for the evening. Are they open early on Friday? 9a Tu-Thu, Fri-Sat at 10a. Can they open early?

They can stay late, so maybe they can open earlier. Would reduce logistics. Simon is new and Daniel is also here, we haven't heard from, anything to add. 5 minutes remaining.

Nothing from Daniel at the moment for the good of the order. Enjoys the input and appreciates the work. Assume the same for Simon. When is the next meeting? July 11 (Tuesday) at 4-5pm 2 weeks from now.

Biweekly or weekly after that? We will see where we are at that point. Dave is supposed to check with Transit on Thursday evening, Ridgefield, Battle Ground, etc. How to handle that?

They probably won't be able to get them all. But maybe they could use a paratransit bus and run it through Ridgefield and north (general area) – if they could do 3 routes with a paratransit bus.

(East, north, and northeast?) Carley recommends we should try to consolidate numbers of RSVPs before we try to arrange transport. We don't want to waste a driver and have no one to pick up.

Look at population. There may be other transport options. Now 5pm, 1 comment from Marsha to wrap up. Can we combine the ideas?

See what's possible (3 buses to 3 areas, and when we publicize, we could ask about location and request an RSVP ASAP, keep C-TRAN posted, and encourage ride sharing).

At closing time, anything else for the good of the order before next meeting? Hearing nothing, adjourned at 5:01pm, thanks for participation, great meeting, have a good holiday, see you next time.