

Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD)

Legislative Committee

MINUTES

February 5, 2009

Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center (NDALC)/ Sparks, NV

Video-Conference to: NDALC Las Vegas, NV & NDALC Elko, NV

INTRODUCTIONS

GCDD Members Present: Chair Jack Mayes, Tiffany Hunter, Santa Perez, Robin Renshaw;

GCDD Members Absent: Mary Bryant, Mary Liveratti, Brian Patchett, Korri Ward, Stephanie Schoen;

GCDD Staff Present: Executive Director, Sherry Manning; Projects Manager, Debbie (Crudup) Tyler;

Executive Assistant, Diana Peachay ***Guests Present:*** Carol Hunter, Ellie Carter, Parent; Scott Carter, GCDD

Council Member - Elko; Dianna DeBisshop, NDALC - Elko; Jamie Ravnkar, UNR – Elko Youth Transition;

Corrie Herrera, NCIL; Denise Groves, Advocate and Facilitator for Scott Carter, Josie O'Donnell, NDALC -

Elko

WELCOME

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mayes at 1:05 am. A quorum was not established. Chair Mayes indicated that Scott Carter is expected to be appointed as a new member of the Legislative Committee by Mary Bryant, Chair of the Council.

APPROVE MINUTES OF JANUARY 14TH LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The approval of the January 14th Legislative Committee meeting minutes was moved to the February 19th agenda as a quorum was not established.

REVIEW NEW/CURRENT BILLS, BUDGETS AND BILL DRAFT REQUESTS

Ms. Crudup gave a brief overview of new items added to the "Legislative Tracking Sheet 2009 and discussion was held. A consensus was reached on each new item regarding the GCDD's position and future action. No action was taken at this time since a quorum was not present. The recommendations will be brought to the February 19th meeting for a vote. The items of discussion and recommendations included:

New Bills

- AB111 "Bill revising provision governing certain facilities for the dependent, medical facilities and homes for individual residential care." The Committee recommended monitoring the Bill.
- SCR4 "Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) urges the child welfare services to develop a standardized practice model and to address specific issues related to family services." The Committee recommended monitoring the Resolution.

Bills Previously Approved

- SB3 "Creates the Legislative Committee on Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice" The Committee had previously requested additional information about the proposed membership of the Committee. The Bill mandates the Committee be made up of six members: three from the Assembly and three from the Senate. This does not preclude input from the community. Chair Mayes indicated a Committee consisting

of legislators tends to be more powerful than a Committee consisting of non-legislative individuals in making actions happen. This Bill is scheduled for hearing on 2/10/09 at 1:30 pm in the Committee on Legislative Operations.

- SB4 “Requires the establishment of a system for the electronic submission of applications for Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program.” Committee recommended no testimony to be given. A letter of support has been written for Mary Bryant’s signature and will be submitted to the hearing committee. The Committee hearing is scheduled for 2/11/09 at 3:15 pm.
- SB78 “Authorizes the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services of the Department of Health and Human Services to regulate the provision of certain services to persons with mental retardation and persons with related conditions.” To date no written revision of the Bill has been made available. As discussed at the last meeting, DHHS has indicated they are working with the Committee on Health and Human Services to amend the Bill. The Committee requests the new language be reviewed when received.
- BDR44 “Mandates insurance coverage for autism and treatment.” This Bill has not been filed yet.
- SB79 “Revises provisions governing various commissions, boards and committees relating to health: creates the NV Commission for Persons with Disabilities” Committee recommended monitoring the Bill. There was discussion on opposition/concerns regarding this Bill from both individuals in the community and organizations, such as People First. This Bill is scheduled for hearing on 2/11/09 at 3:15 pm.
- SB107 “Limits the liability of certain non profit organizations and their agents, employees and volunteers under certain circumstances.” Discussion was held regarding the Bill not encompassing coverage as initially thought; however, consensus agreed to continue to support the Bill. This Bill is scheduled for hearing on 2/11/09 at 8:30 am.
- AB 91 “Authorizes the State Treasurer to securitize the revenue stream produced by the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement” This Bill has not been scheduled for hearing.

Ms Crudup indicated that the letters, from the council chair to legislators, have been drafted in support of SB4, SB24, SB107, AB 4, AB7, AB8, AB 9, and AB 67. Letters of opposition have been written regarding AB 56 and AB 91. These letters are pending Mary Bryant’s signature.

Ms. Crudup will email legislative alerts to the GCDD; investigate why the Legislature wasn’t connected to Las Vegas for testimonies; and find out who to contact at the Legislature for accommodations for individuals who are medically fragile to attend and/or provide testimony.

Chair Mayes suggested: 1) The Legislative Committee meeting continue to meet during the interim between legislative sessions. 2) Encouraged committee to attend the DHHS public hearing Saturday in Las Vegas regarding Hepatitis C; Ms. Crudup will provide information to the committee. 3) Encouraged committee to take advantage, of the opportunity, to educate new legislators regarding the Council and the needs of individuals with disabilities.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Borges gave a brief highlight of her plans to develop a personal care support center where she resides. She advised the Committee of the difficulties and issues that she is experiencing. Ms. Borges stated that she is interested in testifying at legislative hearings; Ms. Manning will contact her for a follow-up. Ms. Borges will contact Yellow Cab regarding wheelchair handicap cabs in the Elko area. Ms. Manning stated it appeared that the taxi cab companies needed more training vs. a new company. Chair Mayes will look into wheelchair taxi cab funding for the Elko area.

Ms. Perez and Robin Renshaw are interested in testifying at legislative hearings. Mr. Carter will help spearhead Assembly Person Carpenter's (from Elko) support for rural transportation issues for older persons and individuals with disabilities.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is set for Thursday, February 19th at 1:00pm-3pm at the same video conferencing sites – subsequent meetings will be held every other Thursday following this date.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.