

**Draft Minutes**  
ADVOCACY, OUTREACH, AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
Thursday, September 1, 2022  
12:15 PM – 1:20 PM  
Virtual Meeting

**Meeting called by:**

Cari Kelley called the meeting to order at 12:16 p.m.

**Members Present:**

- Ana Kolbach, going on maternity leave soon
- Asher Edelson
- Bill Meirs
- Cari Kelley
- Emily Marie Ahtúnan
- Laura Siegel
- Helena Kehne
- Diane Dalmasse (ex-officio, non-voting)

**Members Absent:**

- Sherrie Brunelle, excused
- Sarah Launderville, excused
- Martha Frank, last meeting
- Calla Papademas
- Courtney Blasius
- Cara Sachs

**SRC Liaison:**

- Diane Dalmasse

**SRC Coordinator:**

- Janice Leonard

**Speakers or Presenters:**

- n/a

**Guests:**

- None

**Interpreters**

- Nicole Sargent
- Denise Green

### **1) Introductions** (Cari Kelley, AOE Chair)

#### **Discussion:**

Those in attendance went around the table and introduced themselves.

- Ana Kolbach, going on maternity leave soon. (Due 9/12)
- Laura Siegel is also pregnant and due in January

#### **Conclusions:**

Congratulations to the future moms and their families! Great to see what talent and experience we have in this group.

#### **Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:**

None

### **2) Approval of Agenda** (Cari Kelley)

#### **Discussion:**

Cari asked for any proposed additions or changes to the agenda. Asher moved to accept the agenda and it was seconded. No further discussion. All approved. Vote unanimous 7-0-0

#### **Conclusions:**

Motion passes: today's agenda accepted

#### **Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:**

None

### **3) Open for Public Comment** (Cari Kelley)

#### **Discussion:**

No members of the public were present.

#### **Conclusions:**

n/a

#### **Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:**

None

### **4) Approval of Minutes March 3, 2022** (Cari Kelley)

#### **Discussion:**

Cari asked for any proposed changes or amendments to the Minutes from May 5, 2022. Asher moved to approve the minutes and it was seconded. No discussion. Vote unanimous 7-0-0

**Conclusions:**

May 5, 2022 minutes were approved.

**Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:**

- Approved minutes uploaded to SRC website, **Janice Leonard** 9/8/22.

**5) Discussion: Upcoming Priorities and Partners (Group)****Discussion:**

Cari met with James & Diane about what's going on.

- VCDR has brought to our attention the change of legislatures this year. There will be some new people starting. If you know of anyone starting or an exciting candidate let Cari know. We will want to work with VCDR right now.
- VCDR has program Vermont Disability Proposition.  
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/home/site-resources/accessibility/>.

Should AOE partner with them? They have several focus groups:

1. Research: Topics connected to disability
2. Focus: Issues 4 online forums
3. Writing: Drafting report Disability Proposition of Vermont  
Sarah knows about this including the VT Rural Development connection. Ask Sarah to give us information at the next Full SRC on the VT Disability Proposition as well as Our Time is Now.

The question was raised, "Does the SRC have a mission that matches this partnership?" Diane told the group that this kind of partnership is something we are starting to do already with Our Time is Now. Diane is meeting with Sarah and will plant the seed for partnering.

- Card Event- it would be a good time to have this again.
  - Diane says that it's a wonderful idea and supported by VR. It's competitive to get in, so be sure to get a commitment.
  - Good time to publicize HireAbility- it's catching a lot of people's attention.

**Conclusions:**

- Transportation is a larger state issue. We need to focus on what is under our purview. Group agreed to further investigate the partnership with VCIL and find out more information on the Vermont Disability Proposition.

**Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:**

- Janice to contact Sargent at Arms to get request in and find out available hours. Work with Cari, give dates to Full SRC. Get some carpooling together.

Cari will Ask Sarah to give us information on the Vermont Disability Proposition as well as Our Time is Now at the next Full SRC meeting.

## 6) Discussion: Legislative Toolkit (Group)

### Discussion:

- Cari sent out the Legislative Toolkit developed a year ago. She asked the group if this was something that they wanted to follow up with.
- Could we have a legislator come and present to AOE or FULL SRC. Many names were suggested. Emily suggested Mari Cordes and will reach out to her.
- Cari will reach out to Sarah to see who she would recommend to present to the Full SRC.
  
- Asher let us know that the Democratic Caucus should be initiating a Disability Caucus. This would be a great way to work with legislators. He'll keep us posted.
  
- Voter accessibility was discussed. Need to add the accessibility Web Page information. Step by step
  - It would be beneficial to Tie in Diversity & Disability with towns.
  - Some great links for more information  
<https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/accessible-voting/>  
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/home/site-resources/accessibility/>
  
- Accessibility with Web sites is missing. **Diane will get more information and get back to us.**

### Conclusions:

We will start this by asking legislators to come and speak with both the AOE committee and the Full SRC. Discussions will continue:

- Voter accessibility and voter confidence in the accessibility.
- Web site accessibility

### Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:

- Emily will reach out to Mari Cordes to see if she would attend the next AOE meeting and discuss how to connect with legislators
- Cari will reach out to Sarah to select Legislator to invite to Full SRC
- Accessibility with Web sites is missing. Diane will get more information and get back to us.

## 7) Upcoming Events (Group)

**Discussion:**

**Conclusions:**

**Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:**

**8) Other Business (Group) Agenda Setting:** November 3, 2022

**Discussion:**

- Card Room
- Ask Sarah to come to next meeting on deeper dive on
  - Proposition Project
  - Our Time is Now
- Invite Legislator to AOE? Emily Marie will invite one for November meeting
- Others to Full SRC, Dec 1 meeting? Panel of legislators' senator and a couple reps. (Discrimination Panel? Mari Cortes?)

**Conclusions:**

**Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:**

**9) Adjournment** (Cari Kelley)

Cari called the meeting adjourned **at 1:25 pm**

**Meeting Action Items, Person Responsible and Deadlines:**

- Finalize agenda and upload to SRC Website, **Janice Leonard, 9/10/22**
- Draft minutes for this meeting, upload to SRC website, and email link to Committee members, **Janice Leonard, 9/10/22**
- Upload approved minutes for last meeting, upload to SRC website, and email link to Committee members, **Janice Leonard, 9/10/22**
- Contact Sargent at Arms to get request in and find out available hours. Work with Cari, give dates to Full SRC and coordinate carpooling, **Janice Leonard, 9/17/22.**
- Cari will Ask Sarah to give us information on the Vermont Disability Proposition at the Full SRC meeting.
- Ask Sarah to give us information on the Vermont Disability Proposition as well as Our Time is Now at the Full SRC meeting, **Cari Kelley, 9/17/22**
- Coordinate this with the Chair for Full SRC, **Janice Leonard, 9/17/22**

- Reach out to Mari Cordes to see if she will come to the next AOE and speak to us about reaching out to legislators. **Emily Ahtunan, 9/10/22**
- Reach out to Sarah to see who she recommends for the Full SRC. **Cari Kelley, 9/20/22**
- Accessibility with Web sites is missing. Diane will get more information and get back to us. **Diane Dalmasse, 12/1/22**