

SRC Approved Minutes
ADVOCACY, OUTREACH, AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Thursday, November 3, 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:

- Courtney Blasius
- Diane Dalmasse (ex-officio, non-voting)
- Asher Edelson
- Helena Kehne
- Cari Kelley
- Ana Kolbach
- Sarah Lauderville
- Bill Meirs
- Nancy Richards
- Cara Sachs
- Laura Siegel

Members Absent:

- Calla Papademas (Excused)

SRC Liaison:

- Amanda Arnold
- James Smith

SRC Coordinator:

- Janice Leonard

Speakers or Presenters:

- None

Guests:

- n/a

Interpreters:

- Nicole Sargent

- Denise Green

1) Introductions (Cari Kelley, AOE Chair)

Discussion:

Those in attendance went around the table and introduced themselves.

Conclusions:

We're so happy to have Nancy Richards join the 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, Helena moved, seconded so moved. No further discussion. All approved. Vote unanimous 9-0-0

Conclusions:

Motion passes: today's agenda accepted

Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:

Finalize agenda and upload to SRC Website, Janice Leonard, **11/8/22**

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 Prior Meeting Minutes (Cari Kelley)

Discussion:

Cari asked for any proposed changes or amendments to the Minutes from September 1, 2022. Asher moved to approve the minutes Bill seconded. No discussion. Vote unanimous 9-0-0

Conclusions:

September 1, 2022 minutes were approved.

Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:

- Upload approved minutes to SRC website and link emailed to members, **Janice Leonard** 11/8/22.

5) Sarah explaining Proposition Project * Our Time is Now

Discussion

- Disability Proposition Project:

Our Time is Now, group working with multiple programs including Vermont Council on Rural Development Sarah is a representative for people with disabilities.

Many issues they are working on, the current project of interest is the Disability Proposition Project. The group is holding "listening" sessions to get the public's input on important issues on disabilities. Disability Rights Vermont held a session. Will bring all the information together.

Looking for people to help with writing, research, holding sessions. IF you can't attend be sure to register anyway so you can be in the loop.

- Our Time is Now: Many programs came together to research to get information around employment and disability. Report was done. Named is "Our Time is Now". Now a consultant has started marketing this program. Huge marketing splash!
 - People called looking into how they can hire people with disabilities.
 - Also developed a new concept paper. Place Creative, and hopefully will be implemented the same way as the first. Focus on students in school and adults. This is HireAbility's goal. Access to Education and Employment pathways. Getting people with disabilities to know that they can get good work as well.

Conclusions: Find out how we can work with these groups

Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:

6) Talking with our Legislators / Building Relationships with our Legislators

Discussion: The invited Legislator was not in attendance.

Conclusions: NA

Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:

7) Discussion: Upcoming Priorities & Partners (Group)

Discussion:

At retreat, saw 4 areas of priorities.

1. Collaboration approach with Economic Services
 - a. Have Betsy come to AOE. She is responsible for the Certification Work Incentive Council. She is knowledgeable how one issue affects other issues. **Get Betsy to 2023 full SRC Meeting**
2. Figure out how AOE can be more helpful with Our time is Now Campaign
 - a. HireAbility would love to have our support with this. They will keep in touch with us. **In 2023 we will support this how needed.**
3. Transportation – Ongoing issue
 - a. Tim Bradshaw wants to come in January about transportation- and SILC. This may be a good starting point.
 - b. The youth summer program has transportation as a HUGE barrier.
 - c. A quick survey sent to consumers on the barriers to transportation. We want to partner with the organization who does the surveys.
4. Keep an eye out for SSI Youth benefits being guaranteed for 5 years.
 - a. NICKEL project. Sarah is a member, will get us information, WIG as well.
 - b. VCDR Platform- members to review to see if there are issues that could fall with us. The 2023 priority list will come out in December.
 - c. Cari will send out last year's list.

- Other Ideas:

Legislators.

We talked about inviting legislators. Use card Room event to target face time with some legislators. Try to get legislators to meet with us during that day. We could also go before some committees. Asher thinks we should invite the Bennington Reps to our meeting. Tim may be the chair. There will be a large turnaround in the legislature, it would be great to do some education for disability issues. Maybe in collaboration with someone else?

Will & Heather put together a video on disability etiquette which was presented to a Legislative subgroup. This may be worth resurrecting. Get in touch with Heather to get it, she's on disability right now. Emily & Diane will follow up.

Sharing stories may have more impact.

- Card Room Event. Use card Room event to target face time with some legislators. Try to get legislators to meet with us during that day. Develop theme, etc.
- Disability Awareness Day. Collaborate with other programs.
- Web Site- VR social media has accessibility issues. The information needs to be accessible. We're partnering with someone to help us with accessibility. **Diane will follow up with this.**

Conclusions:

Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:

8) Upcoming Events (Group)

Discussion: Card Room is coming up 3/31/23. We need to spend some time working on this.

Conclusions:

Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:

9) Agenda Setting & Other Business (Group)

a. Agenda Setting: January 5, 2023

Discussion:

- Tim Bradshaw
- Mari Cordes
- VCDR Legislative priorities for 2023

- Card Room Event, theme and what we want to do at that event.

Conclusions:

Action Items, Person Responsible, Deadline:

10) Adjournment (Cari Kelley)

Cara moved that the meeting adjourn, it was seconded. Cari called the meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm

Meeting Action Items, Person Responsible and Deadlines:

- Finalize agenda and upload to SRC Website, **Janice Leonard, 11/30/22**
- Draft minutes for this meeting, upload to SRC website, and email link to Committee members, **Janice Leonard, 11/30/22**
- Finalize approved minutes for last meeting and upload to SRC website **Janice Leonard, 11/10/22**