

MEETING NOTICE

MEETING: Disability Services Advisory Council
DATE: Friday, January 17, 2020
TIME 10:30AM –11:15AM
LOCATION: Lane Council of Governments
5th Floor, Buford Meeting Room
859 Willamette Street
Eugene, OR 97401
CONTACT: Tammy Lanz, 541-682-4430; tlanz@lcog.org

A G E N D A

10:30 a.m.	1. Call to Order, additions to the agenda, introductions	Lana J.
10:31 a.m.	2. Consideration of Meeting Agenda	Lana J
10:33 a.m.	3. Consideration of last meeting minutes	Lana J.
10:35 a.m.	4. Housekeeping a. Council positions and committee updates	Tammy L.
10:45 a.m.	6. Annual Report	Emily F.
10:55 a.m.	7. OAA Reauthorization	Emily F.
11:14 a.m.	8. Call for Next Meeting Agenda Items & Reminder of Next Meeting	Lana J.
<p>March 20, 2020, 10:30AM – 11:15AM 859 Willamette Street, 5th Floor Buford Meeting Room Eugene, OR 97401</p>		
11:15 a.m.	9. Adjourn	Lana J.

Public Comment is limited to 3 minutes.

The above facility is wheelchair accessible. American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation and assisted listening devices can be provided with 48 hours notice; call (541) 682-4430.

MINUTES
DISABILITY SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

Friday, November 15, 2019
10:30 – 11:15 p.m.
Buford Room – Lane Council of Government
859 Willamette Street – Eugene, Oregon

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Ahlen, Peter Bartel, Jeanne Barter, Melanie Carlone, Hoover Chambliss, Kim Davidson-Ruby, Elaine Eiler-Mough, Lana Junger, Marianne Malott, Kay McDonald, Robert Phillips, Tina Powell, Peggy Thomas, Dennis Weirich, Lucy Zammarelli.

STAFF: Emily Farrell, Tammy Lanz, Kate Scott.

GUESTS: Jody Cline, Ed Necker, Susan Roberts, Krea Sardona.

1. Call to Order, Additions to the Agenda, Introductions

Ms. Junger called the meeting of the Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) to order at 10:29 a.m.

2. Consideration of Meeting Agenda

There were no changes made to the agenda.

3. Consideration of Last Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Weirich moved, seconded by Ms. Davidson-Ruby, to approve the September 20, 2019 DSAC minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Welcome new DSAC Members

Ms. Lanz said that all new members had talked when they did introductions, so she did not think there was anything else that needed to be said.

5. Focus Group – Community Needs Assessment

Susan Roberts, the lead eligibility specialist at S&DS, announced that she was there that day to talk to them about the community needs assessment. She said that the needs assessment happens every four years, and that the focus of the current one was disaster preparedness. They wanted to figure out the issues that different groups face when crisis happens. The needs assessment helps them figure out how discretionary funds should be used in the future. Ms. Roberts said that they need to have more than one plan, since everyone had different needs. She explained that they would talk out loud about the long-form questions written on the back of the survey, and that at the end of the meeting she would collect the surveys.

Ms. Roberts asked how prepared everyone felt for future natural disasters. Mr. Necker replied that him and his wife were somewhat prepared, since they had their bags and their pet's bags packed. However, because of expiration dates, they do not have medication ready to go.

Ms. Roberts asked what natural disasters have affected people in the last two years. Ms. Powell replied that she had lost power for two days because of snow. Ms. Roberts asked how many people had trees fall down or other property damage happen. Many people in the room raised their hands. Mr. Weirich said that his van broke in the snow and he could not leave his house for two weeks.

Ms. Roberts asked how many people lost water and had trouble accessing food. Many people in the room raised their hands. Ms. Malott said that she went ten days without perishable foods. Ms. Thomas said that Ms. Powell had to be moved into town for a couple days. Ms. Powell added that she was lucky enough to have some friends that she could stay with, but that she really missed being in the country. Ms. Roberts noted that disasters can have mental trauma as well as physical.

Ms. Roberts inquired into if anyone had any trouble with ice. Ms. Thomas said that she is unable to use wheelchair ramps when it is icy out. Ms. Davison-Ruby mentioned that her side of the street lost power for five to seven days and that her neighbors across the street had it but were not helpful. Ms. Barter voiced that seniors and the disabled without support systems are who they need to be worried about, and thought that they should make some type of list to keep track of them. Ms. Thomas said that she had an appointment but it was canceled because employees could not make it to work. Mr. Weirich thought it would be helpful to provide medical equipment to those who could not afford them or could not leave their homes.

Ms. Scott wanted to circle back to talk about if those in the room felt prepared for another disaster. Most people in the room raised their hand and said that they at least felt more prepared than before. Ms. Zammarelli said that they try and alert people who live out in the country, but do not always know where people are. Since people are unable to get mail and do not have working phones during a crisis, it is hard to alert people or have people call in for help.

Ms. Barter wished that with life saving medication the government would allow insurance companies to give a supply that could be stored. Ms. Zammarelli understood why that would be a good idea, but expiration dates mean that medications need to constantly be replaced.

Ms. Roberts wanted to know, thinking for the next ten years, what would help people be more prepared. Ms. Carlone thought that the government and insurance companies needed to be better prepared for disasters by having money saved up to help out those in the community and to help prevent more issues. Ms. Thomas voiced how RideSource had been really helpful at getting people where they needed to go, so having more access to them would be a plus. Ms. Barter talked about how she has worked with consumers who are young but quadriplegic. She said that they are usually forced to share a room which seemed wrong to her since they are being treated like less just because of their disabilities.

Mr. Necker asked Ms. Carlone what level of advocacy, state or federal, she thought needed to be done to achieve her idea. Ms. Carlone responded that they needed to focus on the local structure, so that people felt connected and would help each other out in a crisis. She thought using the internet and websites like Next Door could help people stay in touch.

Mr. Ahlen talked about how new inaccessible construction makes it hard to get around. He said that building sidewalks are not always lined up correctly, and that not all buildings in town have wheelchair ramps.

Ms. Roberts inquired into what the biggest issues of accessibility were when growing older in the community. She noted that what Mr. Ahlen had just said was very relevant. Ms. Davidson-Ruby mentioned that in-home care for those who need a little help is hard to find. Ms. Scott said that Oregon Project Independence (OPI) provided a little support to those in the types of situations Ms. Davidson-Ruby was talking about. She added that their mission was to help people stay in their own homes. Ms. Eiler-Mough said that the senior companion program also works in a similar way. Ms. Carlone mentioned that if the community support was available these things would be happening naturally.

Ms. Roberts asked if there was anything else anyone wanted to share. Mr. Chambliss said that the governor's commission on senior services told them to call 911 when they needed help, but that he wanted a more

central location that had personal information on him that they could access in an emergency. Mr. Chambliss mentioned that he did not live on the first floor and was in a chair, and it would be helpful if people knew that when they came to help. Mr. Weirich talked about the issue of accessibility for those who did not live on the first floor and were disabled. He wondered what they were supposed to do when the elevators were not working.

Ms. McDonald thanked S&DS staff for their hard work when there was flooding last Spring. She thought they did a great job of compiling a list of the most vulnerable and having case managers get in touch with people.

Ms. Roberts thanked everyone for their time, and told them to write down any other comments they had on their surveys.

6. Call for Agenda Items & Reminder of Next Meeting

January 17, 2020, 10:30AM – 11:15AM

859 Willamette Street, 5th Floor Buford Meeting Room

Eugene, OR 97401

Ms. Zammarelli said they should give a CCO updated, since their should be more information by the next time they meet.

Ms. Carlone thought they should talk more about what they could do concerning the conversation they just had.

Ms. Scott informed everyone that they would be publishing the results of the community needs assessment and would give a presentation when all the information was collected and sorted through.

Ms. Davidson-Ruby wondered if they could get someone from city planning to come talk to them about why new buildings are inaccessible.

7. Adjournment

Ms. Junger adjourned the meeting at 11:21 a.m.

(Minutes recorded by Lydia Dysart)