



Vermont Deaf/Hard of Hearing/DeafBlind Council meeting (11/20/18)

Meeting Minutes

Call to order

A meeting of the Vermont Deaf/Hard of Hearing/DeafBlind Council was held at Waterbury State Office Complex (Ash Conference Room) on 11/20/2018

Attendees

Monica Hutt, Deb Baker, Missy Boothroyd, Amelia Briggs, Rebecca Chalmers, Keri Darling, Ralph Gallo, Alan Gifford, Linda Hazard, Danielle Howes, Bill Hudson, Cindy Moran, William Pendlebury, Laura Siegel, Sherry Sousa, Julie Stefanski, AJ Van Tassel, Judy Vreeland, Spenser Weppler, Amy Williamson, Shannon Smullen, Sharon Henry, Susan Kimmerly.

Keri's brainstorming session

(encouraging everyone to cultivate a sense of where they want the council to be in 5 years).

- ❖ Will it be under AHS? How can we be better? "Improve the lives of all Vermonters"
- ❖ Big Picture: what do we see as a single point of entry [for services]?
- ❖ 4 workgroups in the council with a lot of readily available information. How can we use that data to inform what we do?
- ❖ I'd like to see some metrics reported so that we have something to submit to the legislature and make the data accessible.
- ❖ How do we collect data on our elderly in Vermont? (School-aged population is pretty well documented).
- ❖ How do we enrich the systems that already exist?
- ❖ What might be the financial resources that help make the resources we envision possible?

Updates on programs

Linda: Vermont EDY Update (screening for infants in the State of Vermont). The ultimate goal is that all babies in VT receive CMV screening. Links will be provided on the website asking that CMV be added to the list of tests.

Danielle: 9East (still working on funding). Working with DVHA around proper billing and coding.

Spenser: How much is NOT being paid by Medicaid?

Danielle: gave update (it's not about being denied, it's about delayed payment. \$60,000 delayed or denied). How can 9East access the most Medicaid billing codes as possible to maximize their ability to draw down funds?

Rebecca: Hands & Voices, HLAA. How to get accessibility at the Capitol?

Will: Check-in with interpreting group

Linda: Accomplishments section. Grateful/Thank you notes.

Bill H: H429 Tactile Communication services.

Keri: Google drive, vision group edits (maybe not send to the entire group - but to the vision group for edits).

Unfinished business

*Keri's motion to take some language back to VCDR (December 14th deadline).

Term limits discussed for Council members

2 years for chair (1 year term with an option to renew)

2 years for Vice Chair

How long should chair/vice-chair serve? Should there be term limits for council members?

-Monica will make edits to guidelines (vote will be at the January meeting).

-Legislative report is due January 15th. What do we want to focus on in this legislative session through the report recommendations?

- Hearing aids (covered by some, not by others).

Spenser: Would advocate for the council's review of new bills. Discussion around How else could we provide other recommendations to the legislation? (Aside from being invited).

New business

-Discussion around the push for a Council position; the same position that we have recommended being created through the last report. Someone who will advocate for policies that affect the council.

Deaf-Blind Association (nationally: NCDB) can we get someone for a state rep (such as René Pellerin)? René is a national rep and lives in Vermont.

-Adding a representative to the Council who formally represents the Hard of Hearing, possibly someone from the Hard of Hearing Association. Could we do this informally? There was disagreement from some of the council members around the idea of the representative for the Hard of Hearing being handled in an informal capacity way. There was general consensus that in order to promote equity, if there is a Council representative named from the Association of the Deaf, there should be a Council representative named from the Hard of Hearing Association.

We would need to amend the enabling legislation related to the Council in order to formally include that representation. Spenser and Keri will consider and discuss how best to accomplish that.

-Rebecca & Monica: "The Lean Methodology." Gov. Phil Scott's executive order - LEAN. A way to address results-based accountability. How do we measure the help that we're providing? LEAN

can help address waste/inefficiency. Rebecca will coordinate A-3 Promotion (will email the group). Reaching out to Justin asking him to come and overview.

Announcements

2019 Council Dates

Wed/Thursdays probably work better. The 3rd Thursdays of March - May - Sept - Nov
January 9th - 10am start time.

Secretary

Date of approval

DRAFT