Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns

August 7, 2015

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Participating: George Beard, Bob Cantin, Grady Landrum, Brian Ellefson, Ranita Wilks, Marilyn Bittenbender, Frank Chappell, Anthony Fadale, Craig Kaberline, Josh Powers, Jill Bronaugh, Tessa Goupil, Diane Woodard, Don Woodard, Rick Shellenbarger

Staff: Martha Gabehart

Visitors/Speakers: Pam Brown

Chairperson Bob Cantin called the meeting to order.

**Introductions/updates**:

Bob: continues to serve on the people with disabilities Advisory Board in Olathe. They sponsored the bike riders who rode from the east coast to the west coast for a child with disabilities.

Grady Landrum: will report later on the service dog committee’s progress

Anthony Fadale: The Governor signed Executive Order 15-2 which establishes a policy that the state of Kansas will give preference to veterans and people with disabilities in state employment. Kraig Knowlton, director of the Office of Personnel Services, met with the Subcabinet on Disability about establishing a disability preference. The Docking State office Building is being vacated for demolition. Dept. for Children and Families (DCF) has moved to 555 S Kansas. His office is on the first floor. Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities (KCDD) is still looking for a new location.

Jill Bronaugh: Kansas Rehabilitation Services (KRS) Central office is now called Administration. They are partnering with the KU Medical Center in Kansas City for a new inclusion program hiring people with disabilities.

Diane Woodard: She is no longer working for Community Works in Kansas City. She is now working for the Disability Rights Center (DRC) in Topeka.

Marilyn Bittenbender: Marilyn is a realtor and has a daughter with intellectual disabilities.

Frank Chappell: Frank is connected with AMBUCS which is a business organization that pays for scholarships for physical therapists and buys therapeutic tricycles for children and adults with disabilities. He is currently fund-raising for AMBUCS.

Don Woodard: Don is the Speaker of the Silver-Haired Legislature. He is also a commissioner of Senior Men’s Softball in Shawnee County.

George Beard: George is a guardian to several persons with disabilities in Wyandotte County.

Brian Ellefson: His two Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) events are October 23rd in Olathe and October 20 in Kansas City, Missouri. He is still active on the transition council pulling together topics. He worked on a large job fair and remains active on The Whole Person board.

Ranita Wilks: Ranita is working with youth transition services and has an employment program called Youth Employment Program (YEP) which provides paid work trial opportunities for youth aged 18-21 years. She is planning the Douglas County DMD event for October 21st with her education partners. She attended the National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) conference in Washington, DC.

Tessa Goupil: Tessa represents Senate Minority Leader Anthony Hensley.

Rick Shellenbarger: Rick works for the Sedgwick County Emergency Management office. In addition to working on the updating emergency plans, they have released a pilot online training course on closing the gap with people with disabilities and emergency planning.

Craig Kaberline: Craig reported the Older Americans Act is being reauthorized in Congress, but it has only passed the Senate.

**Introduction of New Business that will require a** **Vote** – No

**Addition, Deletions and Corrections to the** **Agenda** – Anthony asked that Martha’s Executive Director’s Report be put in after the approval of the minutes.

**Approval of Last Meeting’s Minutes** – George moved approval of the May minutes. Don seconded. Motion carried.

**Public Comments** – none

**Executive Director’s Report** – Martha reviewed her report (attached.)

**Service Dog Committee Report -** Because Laura Leistra with Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) did not attend and Josh Powers was called away from the meeting, Bob asked Grady to report on the Service Dog Committee activities. Grady reviewed the committee’s decision to create information and possibly materials for training business, police, attorneys and others about what the laws require and allow. The committee’s draft was distributed.

**Regional Transit Districts** – Josh Powers distributed a map with former transit districts and the new regional transit districts. The new regional districts will have regional coordinators. The intention is to promote coordination and provision of information about where transit is available. This will take many years to complete, but there are mobility managers in the Urban Corridor and the Flint Hills Regions.

**KanCare Volunteer Ombudsman** – Pam Brown presented information on the KanCare Volunteer Ombudsman program. The program will train volunteers who will help KanCare members and people applying for KanCare with questions, applications and concerns. The plan is to have the volunteers trained and in place by October 1. They have five applicants for volunteers in Wichita.

**Parking Committee** – Bob reported that the Parking Committee has been able to meet and there seems less interest in the issue at this point. He asked if there was opposition to discontinuing the committee until there is an issue or more interest in it. The commissioners agreed and the committee is suspended.

**Adjourn –** George moved to adjourn. Frank seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha Gabehart

Executive Director’s Report/Legislative Update

August 7, 2015

KCDC Meeting

Since the May KCDC meeting:

I participated in:

* Commission on Emergency Planning and Response (CEPR) meeting
* Subcabinet on Disability meeting with disability leadership
* Kansas Partnership for Accessible Technology. We talked about the new accessibility standards that appear to be adopted for websites and discussed developing a policy for standards for accessible apps.
* The Medicaid Functional Eligibility Instrument-Intellectual/Developmental Disability (MFEI-IDD) meetings. This project is being headed by the KU Center for Research on Aging and Disability Options School of Social Welfare. We are working on finding an effective evaluation instrument for determining whether or not someone with IDD is eligible for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS). The process will take about a year to complete and make the recommendation to the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS).

Roger Frischenmeyer hosted two conference calls with Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) coordinators.

Plans to start updating the KCDC disability service maps were put on hold with the planning of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 25th anniversary celebration, my vacation and work with the KanCare Volunteer Ombudsman program.

Legislative Update

I neglected to report on a few bills that were signed into law.

HB 2006 expands free parking to veterans with disabilities who have disabled veteran license plates in public parking garages in spaces clearly marked as accessible for people with disabilities and parking lots with attendants to collect payments.

HB 2042 changed the membership of the Governor’s Behavioral Health Service Planning Council increased the membership from 33 to 34 by adding the Governor’s Tribal Liaison. It also changes the Robert (Bob) Bethell Joint Committee on Home and Community Based Services and KanCare Oversight Committee meeting to meetings in the third and fourth calendar quarters and that there will be two consecutive days in each quarter. Membership was changed by removing both members of House Appropriations committee, both members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee and the appointment by the House Majority Leader and replaces them with two members appointed by the Speaker of the House and two members appointed by the President of the Senate and one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the House.

Senate Substitute for House Substitute for HB 2170 created the Freedom from Unsafe Restraint and Seclusion Act. The bill defines key terms; addresses the use of emergency safety intervention (ESI); requires notification and documentation of the use of ESI; provides a process for a parent to file complaints through the local dispute resolution process and the State Board of Education (Board) complaint process; requires the Kansas Department of Education (Department) to collect data on the use of ESI; requires the Board to adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement the Act; and establishes the ESI Task Force.

KanCare Ombudsman Volunteer Program

I have been working part-time with the KanCare Ombudsman to help with the implementation of their volunteer program. Since the May meeting, I worked to help find locations in Johnson and Wyandotte Counties, drafted the advertisement for recruiting volunteers and updated the interview forms for interviewing volunteer candidates.

As a reminder, the goal is that the volunteers will provide basic information to KanCare applicants and members answering questions and referring them to the appropriate organization for help. The current ombudsman, Kerrie Bacon, will continue to do the same while also fielding those calls that are more detailed and require more knowledge than the volunteers will have. I will continue to help until they feel the program is up and running.

I attended the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Symposium in Atlanta, GA May 10-13.

Career Tech Ed

I finally received information on the number of high school junior and senior students with disabilities are or have been participating in the Career Tech Ed program. The tables below are for the 2013 and 2014 school years. Special Education is abbreviated as SPED.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| SPED | 2013 | 2014 |
| Sped Enrolled Count | 449 | 597 |
| All Student Enrollment | 5,533 | 7,695 |
| Percentage of Enrolled that are Sped | 8.11% | 7.76% |
| Sped Completed Count | 97 | 127 |
| Percentage of Sped Enrolled which completed in same year of Enrollment | 21.60% | 21.27% |
| All Completed Count | 1,414 | 2,271 |
| Percentage of All Enrolled which completed in same year of Enrollment | 25.56% | 29.51% |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Qualified 504 & SPED | 2013 | 2014 |
| Qualified 504 & Sped Enrolled Count | 542 | 727 |
| All Student Enrollment | 5,533 | 7,695 |
| Percentage of Enrolled that are Qualified 504 and SPED | 9.80% | 9.45% |
| Sped Completed Count | 118 | 158 |
| Percentage of SPED Enrolled which completed in same year of Enrollment | 21.77% | 21.73% |
| All Completed Count | 1,414 | 2,271 |
| Percentage of All Enrolled which completed in same year of Enrollment | 25.56% | 29.51% |
| Qualified 504 and NOT SPED | 2013 | 2014 |
| Qualified 504 Enrolled Count | 93 | 130 |
| All Student Enrollment | 5,533 | 7,695 |
| Percentage of Enrolled that are Qualified 504 and NOT SPED | 1.68% | 1.69% |
| Sped Completed Count | 21 | 31 |
| Percentage of SPED Enrolled which completed in same year of Enrollment | 22.58% | 23.85% |
| All Completed Count | 1,414 | 2,271 |
| Percentage of All Enrolled which completed in same year of Enrollment | 25.56% | 29.51% |