

Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns (KCDC)  
February 1, 2019  
Draft Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Chairman Miller, Beth Van Vleck, Brian Ellefson, George Beard, Anthony Fadale, Shanti Ramcharan, Ranita Wilks, Rene Hart, Senator Rick Billinger, Bob Cantin, Marilyn Bittenbender, Craig Knutson, Susan Weidenbach

Guests Present: Cheryl Laaker, Kim McDade, Mike Cubon, Joe Scarlet, Jeff Schroeder, Nathan Lingle, Teri with Families Together for Laurie Gerber

Staff: Martha Gabehart

Welcome – Chairman Miller welcomed everyone to the conference call meeting.

Introductions – Commissioners introduced themselves and gave updates on their activities in the home communities.

Guests introduced themselves and gave updates.

George Beard – Guardian for three people with behavioral health disorders. He is KCDC's ex officio representative to the Statewide Independent Living Council of Kansas (SILCK).

Shanti Ramcharan – Now working for Aetna Better Health of Kansas. In the process of reaching out to members to get them set up.

Bob Cantin – No report

Brian Ellefson – Getting ready to have first meeting of Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) committee to start planning for the Kansas City DMD events. He is on the board of Kansas APSE. APSE promotes Employment First in Kansas. If commissioners are interesting in joining, go to the APSE website. He also serves on the SILCK.

Ranita Wilks – Works for Independence, Inc Center for Independent Living in Lawrence. The transition council is having an event on February 13<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 4:00 pm with the KU Transition to Post-Secondary Education in the Kansas Union.

Marilyn Bittenbender – No report

Dr. Steve Miller – Disabled Vietnam veteran and advocate for people with MS and has a relationship with Parsons. Today at 11:00 Parsons will have a Chicken and Noodle Carry-Out. Service dog experience – was at a game at Allen Field House. There was a little dog at the game but was not in control even though the it had a vest on. The next game he went to the dog has head phones on to dampen the noise from the band and the dog ws under better control because its hearing wasn't being hurt.

Rick Shellenbarger – two sons that were on Payroll Plus of Kansas transitioned over to Life Patterns in Topeka. They had problems with Authenticare payroll issues, but that is worked out with Life Patterns. Daughter-in-law applied to be on the IDD waiver almost five years ago, but just now had a meeting about being on the waiver. She is still not receiving waiver services.

Anthony Fadale – We've been involved with emergency management with snow helping people with issues like parking spaces and access aisles not being cleared, but the city is doing well to keep up with those issues. Last legislative session they passed a bill that reconstituted the Information Technology Executive Committee (ITEC) which sets policy. They recently approved amendments to the IETC policy 1210 which bring the policy into line with the requirements of Section 508. He commended Senator Billinger who is on the ITEC and he supported it.

Rene Hart – representing public transit unit with Kansas Department of Transportation (DOT.) Reviewing 5310 and 5311 transit grants want to make those announcements in March. Transit Day at the Capitol is March 27<sup>th</sup>. Completed coordinated plan and should be released at the end of February. New Secretary of DOT is Julie Lorenz.

Craig Knutson – Represents Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities. New chairperson Kathy Keck. Grant with UMKC Institute of Human Development on expanding charting the Life Course Framework in Kansas. Legislative bill introduced about the supported decision making. Two supported decision-making conferences in Topeka and Salina. Website portal is open to submit their annual reports.

Susan Weidenbach – New Secretary of Commerce David Toland. We are charter members of the Transition Transformers Coalition. They are also members on a short-term Dept. of Education work group that will meet on 2/14 will to establish Board of Education (BOE) policy that will ensure all parts of the law regarding Individual Education Plans (IEPS) and transition services are actually implemented in the local school districts. Retain grant received from return to work or stay at work that works to help people stay

at work or return to work either at their old job or a new job. Working with the Susan B. Allen Hospital in El Dorado and the Workforce Alliance to identify people who have been injured or had an illness and what their work duties are and if there are any rehabilitation changes that need to be made to allow that person to come back to work even with an accommodation. They have 18 months to demonstrate the effectiveness of the project and then 4 of the award recipients will receive a 5-year grant.

Beth Van Vleck – Statewide manager of Pre-ETS for Kansas Rehabilitation Services (KRS). Department for Children and Families Interim Secretary Laura Howard appointed Deputy Secretary Tanya Keys. KRS continues to work on getting people into services quicker. Pre-employment services they continue collaborate with the Foster Care services. They also continue to work with school districts to connect students with disabilities to Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS).

Cheryl Laaker Manager for Community Engagement with Sunflower Health Plan. She is also the coordinators for Project Search (13 sites). The newest in Shawnee Mission is doing well for their first year. Project Search is a transition program for youth transitioning from high school to work.

Kim McDade, transition coordinator with the DeSoto school district.

Mike Cubon

Jeff Schroeder with KCDD.

Nathan Lingle

Terry from Families Together for Laurie Gerber – two families training coming up.

Senator Rick Billinger – no report

Introduction of Business that Requires a Vote – none

Additions, Deletions or Corrections to the Agenda – No changes were made at this time.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for August 17, 2018 and November 2, 2018 meetings – George made one correction to the August 17 meeting minutes to add his Statewide Independent Living Council of Kansas (SILCK) update.

Public Comments – Joe Scarlett made public comments about his recommendations to change Kansas Rehabilitation Services and the Employment First Oversight Commission.

SILCK Update – George updated the commission on the latest SILCK activities. The Administration on Community Living (ACL) extended the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) for an additional year. Also, they are waiting for new board members to be appointed.

Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns (KCDC) Office Update – Martha updated the commissioners on her work since the August 2018 meeting.

The agenda was rearranged because of time concerns and the Alzheimer's Disease Plan Working Group Report was presented at 11:00 as scheduled with the election of officers and the KCDC office and legislative reports occurring after.

Alzheimer's Disease Plan Working Group Report – Ann Elifrits, Commissioner of Aging, reported on the final report and recommendation from the Alzheimer's Working Group plan. She has made presentations to the legislature and is available to talk to other groups.

Election of Officers – Anthony nominated George Beard for Chair. Bob seconded. Nominations closed a unanimous vote for George. Motion carried. Anthony nominated Ranita Wilks for Vice Chair. Brian seconded. Nominations closed and unanimous vote for Ranita. Motion carried.

Adjourn – Steve adjourned the meeting.