



**Assistive Technology and
Communication Committee
Meeting Minutes
Doubletree Hotel – Newark
May 5, 2017**

Committee Members:

Name	In attendance
Marci Straughter, Chair	X
Victor Wilson, Vice Chair	X
Douglas Frank	X
Rochelle Hall-Rollins	X
Kristen Helling	X
Linda Kunick	X
Heather McFarlin	
Blaine O’Leary	X
Paula Rabidoux	X
Jill Radler	
Ilka Riddle	
Kimberly Stults	X
Mindy Vance	X
Dara Walburn	X
Sue Willis	X
Carla Cox (staff)	X (phone)
Kim Crishbaum (staff)	X

Others in Attendance:

Other Council Members: Mark Seifarth, Council Chair

Staff: Carolyn Knight, Fatica Ayers, Gary Groom, Paul Jarvis

Guests: Beth Graham (PCA), Betsy O’Leary (PCA), Gordon O’Neill (O’Neill Public Relations), Essie Pederson (PCA), Devika Rao (O’Neill Public Relations), Eric Rathburn (AT Ohio), Wiley Roberts (PCA), Tim Tobin (contract assistant with OSILC), Renee Wood (special advisor)

Introduction

Chairperson Marci Straughter called the meeting to order at 10:53 a.m. and introductions were made. The March 3, 2017 minutes were presented for approval. Paula Rabidoux **motioned** to accept the minutes. Linda Kunick seconded. **Motion** passed.

Kim Crishbaum – Public Awareness Grant Plan Language

Kim Crishbaum presented the Public Awareness Plan Language for 2018. There were no changes to the plan language from 2017. Dara Walburn **motioned** to approve plan language for the Communication to Increase Public Awareness for People with Developmental Disabilities for 2018. Rochelle Hall-Rollins seconded the motion. **Motion passed.**

Kim Crishbaum – Status of Assistive Technology Grants

Kim Crishbaum provided an update on the assistive technology grants.

AT Task Force (OSILC grant): The AT Task Force met in April and discussed ideas for further recommendations. The grantee will do more research into the ideas discussed and report back at the next AT Task Force meeting. A three-month time extension was requested by the grantee. The vote to extend the time line of the time extension will go before full Council. Sue Willis **motioned** to ask full Council to approve the three-month time extension. Kim Stults seconded. **Motion** passed.

Assessing Assistive Technology Service Delivery in the Ohio County Board of DD

System grant: OCALI is the grantee and began work on the grant on April 1, 2017. OCALI will provide an assistive technology presentation and begin dialogue with county boards of developmental disabilities at the May conference of the Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) of DD. They will also provide an exhibit table at the conference with resources about assistive technology and a "save the date" post card for the assistive technology survey. Survey development will be done by September. Kim Crishbaum stated that OCALI will be asked to present about their progress at the next DD Council meeting in July 2017.

Identification of Assistive Technology Lending Programs in Ohio grant: Three applications were received for this grant. The grant review panel met on April 13, 2017. Two grants were reviewed (the one with the lowest points was discarded). The grant review panel chose OCALI's grant application. However, the panel made one condition and two recommendations for OCALI's response. In addition, the full Council will need to approve OCALI as the grantee since they have existing grants with DD Council totally over \$100,000.

Carolyn Knight – AT & Communication Committee structure

Carolyn Knight spoke about changes to the Assistive Technology & Communication Committee's structure due to concerns that the "communication" portion is not receiving equal attention during the meeting as assistive technology discussions. At future meetings, the agenda will be equally divided time-wise between the two subject areas. Carolyn noted since the assistive technology grants were now up-and-running, there should be ample time to focus on communication (public awareness) discussions.

Public Awareness Grantee Presentation

Gordon O'Neill and Devika Rao of O'Neill Public Relations, Inc. provided a presentation about their work as Council's new Public Awareness grantee. Gordon presented on the work that O'Neill has done for other DD Councils (Georgia and North Carolina) and how they would assist Ohio's DD Council. Devika presented on their plans for Council and asked for input from the Council members. Input from members included having members submit videos/photos/stories/events for consideration and provide stories about past and present grantees to show how Council's grantees make a difference. Devika informed the Committee that she used the time she spent at this Council meeting to interview (via video and speech) several members. Her intent is to provide DD Council with videos and picture, along with an article about the Council member so we can post them on our website and social media. This will help inform the public about the roles and accomplishments of Council members.

New Business

Doug Frank demonstrated his new speech device that he received from the AT Center at The Ohio State University's Wexner Medical Center. DD Council had assisted Doug in getting the initial connection with the AT Center so that he could get an assessment for a device. Doug - using his new speech device - thanked Council for giving him the opportunity to get this device and to be a voice on DD Council.

Carolyn Knight and Tim Tobin provided a summary of a meeting held with the Nisonger Center at The Ohio State University. Nisonger received a grant from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) and is working with the funding and representatives from DODD to improve and expand remote monitoring services for Ohioans with developmental disabilities. At its last meeting, the Nisonger Technology Committee recognized that assistive technology is key component of remote monitoring. They plan to have a small group meeting to discuss the "lay of the land" of assistive technology in Ohio. Carolyn stated she shared with the Nisonger Technology Committee that DD Council's AT & Communication Committee has spent the last five years doing this and offered to share

what Council has learned with the Nisonger group. Representatives from Council and Tim Tobin, as a representative of the OSILC grantee, agreed to attend the upcoming meeting.

Adjournment

A **motion** was made by Dara Walburn to adjourn. Rochelle Hall-Rollins seconded the **motion**. The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.