

**Assistive Technology Committee Meeting Minutes
Cherry Valley Lodge
July 11, 2014**

Committee Members Present: Greg Dormer, Lisa Kraus, Linda Kunick, Paula Rabidoux, Ilka Riddle, Robert Shuemak, Marci Straughter, Sue Willis

Staff Present: Paul Jarvis, Carolyn Knight, Kim McConnell

Guests: Cassandra Archie, Melody Brauninger

Chair Robert Shuemak called the meeting to order at 10:55 and introductions were made.

Motions were made to approve the September 2013, December 2013, and May 2014 meeting minutes. All three motions passed.

Robert reminded members that he would like to have them send him contact information of assistive technology resources from around the state, including large organizations and grassroots efforts. This information will be used to create a resource directory. Robert brought up that a lot of people still do not have access to computers, so both an online and paper directory should be made available. Ilka suggested that the AT Committee could offer a future grant for someone to develop an online searchable database. Marci shared that she needs her materials printed in large print and that she would like to have a screen magnifier and that the different needs of different people to access information should be considered when choosing how to provide this information to the public.

Kim said that when she first came to work for Council, she reviewed the meeting notes from the when the Committee first developed and saw that at one time, the AT Committee wanted to develop a survey for its members to complete about their AT needs. Committee members agreed that this still needs to be done and would like to find out what members need to participate not only in Council meetings, but also in all daily activities. Kim will develop a draft survey for the AT Committee to review at the next meeting.

Paul Jarvis, DD Council staff for the Public Policy Committee, asked for ideas for his Committee's Data and Policy Research Project. Sue shared with Paul that feedback from people who attended the 2013 Tech Tablet Conference identified three major barriers for people with disabilities when trying to access assistive technology: (1) How people with disabilities can get an assessment to identify what they need; (2) how to get funding to pay for the equipment and/or technology; and (3) how to get training once they receive the equipment and/or technology. The AT Committee suggested a research project be done to conduct a statewide assessment among agencies, organizations, and people with disabilities about these barriers and best practices.

Sue provided an update on the status of the Assistive Technology Conference. It will be held in April or May of 2015 and the grantee is OSILC. The planning group is continuing to meet and is currently securing an exact date and working on the budget. The planning group meets next on July 23.

Cassandra Archie (grantee of Triple Jeopardy project) asked the Committee about ideas on how Council may be able to help with the Triple Jeopardy project from an assistive technology standpoint. She recently held a meeting in Dayton with several project participants who had hands-on time with many tablet and smart phone devices. The learning curve varied, but she said that everyone learned more about how these devices could help their daily activities, including communicating among Triple Jeopardy members. Paula spoke about the Tele-Early Intervention project and how it could be a model for Triple Jeopardy, in particular how to have virtual meetings. Cassandra stated that the problem is that many do not have the equipment to be able to participate in this way, primarily due to cost issues. The discussion led to talking about the lending libraries, in particular the one associated with the Goodwill Easter Seals Assistive Technology Services project coordinated by Kevin Leonard out of Dayton. Carolyn suggested inviting Kevin to a future Council meeting to discuss what other types of services and information they provide since this could be a "best practice model" for other counties to consider.

A motion was made and passed to adjourn.

ADJOURNED: 12:15 p.m.