

Minutes – March 3, 2016

SRC Advocacy, Outreach and Education Committee

SRC Advocacy, Outreach and Education Committee		
Thursday, March 3, 2016	1:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Video Conference – VR Offices: Rutland, Burlington & White River Junction
Meeting called by	Alaina Clements – Chair at 1:35 pm	
Members Present	Diane Dalmasse, Sam Liss, Olivia Smith-Hammond, Leslie Walker Mitchell and Martha Frank	
Members Absent	n/a	
SRC Liaison	n/a	
SRC Coordinator	Rebekah M. Stephens	
Interpreters	n/a	
Speakers/Presenters	n/a	
Guests	n/a	
1. Today's Agenda		
2 minutes	Alaina Clements	
Discussion	No discussion.	
Conclusions	Today's agenda accepted.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a
2. Approval of Minutes – January 7, 2016 Committee Meeting		
3 minutes	Alaina Clements	
Discussion	Martha Frank moved to approve. Olivia Smith-Hammond 2 nd .	
Conclusions	Minutes approved.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Approved minutes uploaded to www.VTSRC.org	Rebekah Stephens	3/11/2016
3. Updates – Federal: SSDI Update		
10 minutes	Sam Liss	
Discussion	Nothing new on SSDI at this time. Sam gave a brief update on Ticket to Work Act. Comments are due in April. Hopefully there will be bipartisan support of this in Congress. There has been a lot of interest in the Career Access Pilot Program across the States.	
Conclusions	Thanks, Sam!	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a
4. Updates – VR Budget, WIOA, National Implementation of PETS, Career Access		
30 minutes	Diane Dalmasse	
Discussion	VR met with staffers from Vermont's Congressional offices about Career Access and took away an action plan on how to move forward. They will be meeting again on April 5, 2016. This is an incredible opportunity for Vermont's youth. VR's budget is in good shape. Re-allotment funds have been essential. VR is finally under contract for AWARE. It should go live in approximately 16 months. VR is going to request a waiver from RSA on certain reporting requirements until AWARE is up and running. Generally speaking, most VR agencies are expanding summer youth programs and making in-school work a portion of general VR counselors work. VT VR does not agree with this and has a dedicated PETS staff. If a VR agency does not expend the 15% for PETS they cannot draw down the money. Is ground being lost? VR does have some concern over the new common performance measures. VR took a look at the opportunities being afforded by these common performance measures and the possible threats from these new common measures. VR management met and did an analysis of both the opportunities and the threats and found	

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that the opportunities outweighed the threats. There is a lot of focus on how to increase wages for consumers and move them into career pathways. VR will be finalizing the processes around this focus at the 2016 VR annual retreat. The goal is to help consumers increase their earnings and career possibilities. VR is going to try really hard to gain ground not lose it.		
Conclusions	Thanks, Diane!	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a
5. Discussion – Cardroom Agenda for March 24, 2016		
15 minutes	Committee Members	
Discussion	The suggestion was made to ask Mark Hastings, soon-to-be new member of the SRC to join the AOE Committee at the Statehouse on March 24 th . The Committee agreed that employers do not necessarily need to have hired a youth recently in order to participate at the Statehouse event. The theme for Disability Awareness Day is “Let’s Get to Work”. The AOE Committee would like to continue this theme on the 24 th and expound on it to include youth. The theme for the SRC Cardroom event will be “Let’s Get to Work – Getting Youth to Work”. The event will be from 8:00am – 4:30pm. The members would like to have at least two volunteers (participants) per hour to sit at the table. Nat Piper, Amanda Kohle, Rachel Knapp and Laurie Brown have all expressed an interest in participating in the day’s event. Diane Dalmasse is going to see if Hugh Bradshaw will be able to attend also. The Committee members would like to have some SRC literature to hand out. The Committee members like the idea of a postcard. Diane offered VR printing services. 75 postcards should be sufficient. The members also discussed the idea of a food item. Diane will reach out to Wendy Madigan about baking some cookies for the event. Diane suggested that VR may be able to provide some handout materials and pull-ups(signage) for the event. VR will also provide a laptop for the day’s event.	
Conclusions	Rebekah Stephens will send an email out to all potential participants to arrange schedule of coverage for table at March 24 th Statehouse event. Rebekah will design a postcard and send directly to Diane per her request. Diane will ask Brian Guy or Alice Porter to do printing. Diane will reach out to Wendy Madigan about baking cookies for event. Diane will speak to Hugh to see if he is able to participate in the event. Diane will also reach out to Hugh about pull-ups and handout materials. Diane offered to have Nat Piper bring the laptop to the event.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Send email to all potential participants	Rebekah Stephens	3/7/2016
Design postcard and forward to Diane Dalmasse	Rebekah Stephens	3/7/2016
Send out email reminder to Diane Dalmasse with list of items to complete	Rebekah Stephens	3/7/2016
6. Discussion – Revisit 2016 AOE Goals and Standing Agenda Items		
15 minutes	Committee Members	
Discussion	Committee members discussed the current standing agenda items and agreed to the following: 1. Updates – Federal: leave as a standing agenda item but remove sub topic “SSDI”, 2. Updates - (Diane Dalmasse): leave VR Budget, leave WIOA - remove sub topics “National Implementation of PETS” and “Is ground being lost with new WIOA regulations” - leave sub topic “Career Access Project”.	
Conclusions	Rebekah Stephens will reflect agreed upon changes on future AOE agendas.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Adjust future AOE agendas to reflect agreed upon changes	Rebekah Stephens	ongoing
7. Other Business		
10 minutes	Alaina Clements	

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Discussion	National Federation of the Blind Newslite looks good. Vermont Family Network Conference is on April 6, 2016 at the Hilton in Burlington.	
Conclusions	Thank you for the information.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a
8. Adjournment		
5 minutes	Alaina Clements	
Discussion	Olivia Smith-Hammond moved to adjourn. Sam Liss 2 nd .	
Conclusions	Adjourned at 2:41 pm.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Draft minutes submitted for approval	Rebekah Stephens	4/1/2016
Draft minutes uploaded to website www.VTSRC.org	Rebekah Stephens	4/1/2016
Draft minutes emailed to Committee members	Rebekah Stephens	4/1/2016
Minutes approved by Committee	Committee Members	5/5/2016
Approved minutes uploaded to website www.VTSRC.org	Rebekah Stephens	5/13/2016