

APPROVED 2018.03.01

MINUTES – January 3, 2018 -

SRC Advocacy, Outreach and Education Committee

SRC Advocacy, Outreach and Education Committee		
Wednesday, January 3, 2018	12:15pm – 1:45 pm	Waterbury State Complex Room Cherry C HC 2 South 280 State Drive Waterbury, VT 05671
Meeting called by	Sarah Launderville, Interim Chair, convened the meeting at 12:30 pm.	
Members Present	Max Barrows (arrived at 12:50), Diane Dalmasse, Martha Frank, Marlana Hughes, Sarah Launderville, Sam Liss, Calla Papademas, Deborah Tucker Boyce	
Members Absent		
SRC Liaison	James Smith, DVR Budget and Policy Manager	
SRC Coordinator	Debra Kobus	
Interpreters	n/a	
Speakers/Pre senters	n/a	
Guests		
1) Approval of Today's Agenda		
2 minutes	Sarah Launderville	
Discussion	Sarah convened the meeting at 12:20 and welcomed everyone to the first newly re-established AOE Committee meeting and asked if there were any proposed changes to the agenda. There were none.	
Conclusions	None	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a
2) Introductions		
3 minutes	Sarah Launderville	
Discussion	Sarah began with introducing herself and asked that each person go around the table and introduce himself/herself.	
Conclusions	We have a great group of dedicated individuals!	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a

3) Brief Historical Overview of AOE Committee	
10 minutes	Sarah Launderville
Discussion	<p>Sarah provided a brief historical overview of the AOE to the members:</p> <p>This committee plans and recommends to the full SRC activities to be undertaken in the name of the SRC that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• advocate for issues that affect the mission of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) and the people that DVR serves;• and educate the public and specific audiences about vocational rehabilitation and VR issues. <p>Sarah added that the AOE educates the full committee on issues going on nationally.</p> <p>This committee was done away with about a year or so ago, but it was decided by the Full SRC to re-establish it.</p> <p>Other items discussed that would be important for the AOE Committee to focus on included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Having the core transition team throughout the state host legislators to educate them about what the initiatives were statewide around transitioning;• AOE member attend legislative breakfasts in their hometown areas;• The AOE committee should work with chambers of commerce and Creative Workforce Solutions (CWS) to educate them about the need for specific VR services. However, there were some logistical issues that were encountered when this was attempted previously. <p>Diane explained that Creative Workforce Solutions is an arm of VR and said that the lynch pin of this initiative is</p>

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	the Business Account Managers (BAMs). BAMs knock on employer’s doors every day and build relationships with employers in the community to try and identify progressive and other employment opportunities, etc., and share that information with the job developers in that community. They use Sales Force Software to capture all this information.	
Conclusions	Some of the duties of the AOE were discussed as well as new areas to pursue.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a
4) Election of new chair		
15 minutes	Sarah Launderville	
Discussion	Sarah asked for nominations or self-nominations from the floor. Sam Liss indicated that he would like to self-nominate for Chair. Sam believes he can serve as a bridge between the old AOE and new to try and modify the old committee meeting structure into something that achieves results in a more efficient manner. Sarah asked if there were any more nominations. There were none. Sarah asked for a vote by a show of hands to elect Sam Liss as chair. All were in favor. Sam Liss was elected Chair of the AOE.	
Conclusions	Sam Liss was elected chair of AOE Committee	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Update SRC Materials (web and hard copy material)	Debra Kobus	2/2/2018
5) Approval of AOE Committee Minutes:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 3, 2016 • January 5, 2017 • March 2, 2017 		
2 minutes	Sam Liss	
Discussion	Sam asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes as a block. Martha Frank moved to approve. Calla 2 nd . No	

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	further discussion. All approved with Sarah abstaining.	
Conclusions	Minutes approved.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Post Approved Minutes on SRC website	Debra Kobus	1/8/2018
6) Vermont Coalition for Disability Rights (VCDR) Appointments		
13 minutes	Sam Liss and Sarah Launderville	
Discussion	<p>Sam explained that VCDR is a coalition of many nonprofit organizations with an interest in disability issues. VCDR is looking for two appointments from the SRC to serve as representatives from this group to the VCDR.</p> <p>Sarah explained that policy meetings are scheduled on Mondays with Karen Lafayette, our lobbyist. We also have funds to support Disability Awareness Day with this year’s focus on health (February 28) with workshops during the day and a guest speaker in the evening.</p> <p>Sarah will send out the upcoming meetings schedule so AOE members can review the requirements prior to deciding. The meetings generally run from 10-12Noon on Mondays.</p> <p>Marlena expressed interested but would like more information.</p> <p>Sam provided some additional background as to how the meetings run and discussion items.</p> <p>Sarah explained how VCDR works as a coalition with the intent of not being divided.</p>	
Conclusions	Sarah will add AOE members to VCDR’s list serve and provide information about the meeting schedule directly.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Sarah will add AOE members to VCDR’s email distribution list and provide	Sarah Launderville	2/2/2018

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information directly as to the meeting schedule. Debra will add information on VCDR happenings to the SRC website based on information forwarded along by Karen Lafayette.	Debra Kobus	Ongoing
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7) Update Legislative Session

5 minutes

Discussion	<p>a. <u>2018 Card Room Reservation – Tuesday, March 20, 2018</u></p> <p>Debra let the committee know that the Card Room has been reserved on behalf of the SRC for Tuesday, March 20, 2018.</p> <p>Sam provided some background on the Card Room at the State House. The Card Room is located on the second floor to the right of the ramp to the cafeteria. The Card Room is where an advocacy group would gather, display their exhibits, and try to catch a legislator’s ear on the subject they are advocating for.</p> <p>There are pros and cons related to the Card Room. The pros are the SRC gets to publicize, have exhibits, put SRC’s name and functions out there while the legislators are walking through the State House, etc. The con is related to its cost effectiveness as it can be laborious with having to carry in material and the chance that legislators won’t pay much attention. Sam believes it is worth it though. In the past, SRC members and some VR staff manned the exhibit.</p> <p>b. 2019 Card Room Reservation</p> <p>Sam’s recommendation was to do reserve the Card Room in 2019. Sarah agreed. Sam asked for a consensus from the members as to whether we should reserve the Card Room in 2019. Members agreed. Debra will submit a reservation for 2019.</p> <p>Sam asked if the SRC Coordinator should attend and it was determined that it was not a deliverable related to the</p>
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Coordinator’s contract with the State.

Martha asked where we are related to Career Access. Sam explained that unfortunately the appropriations were not there and that we will have to solicit funding from private donations. However, Vermont is now the lead State resulting from the work done by Diane and Senator Leahy. Diane said that we are also very solid programmatically especially with the Linking Learning to Careers program. We are looking at locating foundations that would be willing to sponsor individuals (aged 18-30). Marlena mentioned that Linking Learning to Careers starts at an earlier age and it was agreed.

Sam asked for any themes that should be focused on. Diane suggested Linking Learning to Careers that enhances services for students in all of Vermont’s high schools. It might be an opportunity to educate legislators on this and perhaps transition to totality, the core transition teams, etc. Sam liked the idea of highlighting transition in the Card Room.

Sarah said that we have put a lot of emphasis on youth transition lately and many people feel that adult services are not what they should be (right or wrong) and believes that we need to educate legislators about what we are doing around adult services as well.

Diane suggested that our theme should be “Career Pathways for People with Disabilities” where we can highlight earnings, educational credentials, etc.

Sarah thought a handout with all the funding lost over the past couple of years could be helpful as well as informative to the legislators.

Max was wondering if we could include the importance of internships/job training requirement that helps an individual determine whether a particular job suits them. Martha said that personalized learning plans now required

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in school should help students determine this.

Calla said that it may be a good idea to create a grab and go sheet where several testimonials of recipients of VR services are provided. Calla said she would be willing to provide a testimonial. Members agreed this would be a great idea.

Diane added that soon we will have many testimonial videos available. There is also a video from the Youth Core Transition Team Event that occurred recently which we could post up on YouTube and provide a link to this video on handouts or have the video running during our time in the Card Room because it speaks to the core team's value.

At the March meeting, we will decide on the specific schedule of who will be manning the room and what we will be bringing.

Sam asked if we should aim for the fall to focus on coordinating VR events with, for example, the Youth Core Transition Team Counselors? Diane said that every one of our Transition Counselors has a Youth Employment Specialist (YES) who sit on the BAMs (CWS) team. The Youth Employment Specialist are the entry point for students to access what the BAM (CWS) has to offer. Martha believes that every Core Transition Team has a YES on their team, so it could be an opportunity for the Youth Employment Specialist to do a presentation at a Core Transition Team Meeting in partnership with the BAM.

Diane will speak with James about organizing a new members VR orientation packet perhaps with a flow chart. Martha suggested that some sort of visual would be helpful about letting people know the many different avenues a person could take.

Martha asked about being provided a PowerPoint where a handout could be developed from Rachel Knapp who presented alongside of Rich Tulikangas at the December

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	Full SRC Meeting on Linking Learning to Careers. (Note from Coordinator – this information is available on the SRC website at http://vtsrc.org/presentations/.)	
Conclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The theme of the 2018 Card Room should be around Career Pathways for People with Disabilities, Partnerships, and Collaborations • We should have food as that is always a big draw. • At our next meeting we will flesh out times and specifics of hands outs, etc. • Sarah, Sam and Martha have agreed to share time manning the room • We should try and reserve the Card Room in 2019 • A new VR Orientation Packet should be created with visuals • In the fall, focus on coordinating VR events • Tara Howe, VR Youth Transition Program Coordinator, should be invited to an AOE meeting after the Card Room Event to begin discussion about fall events 	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Debra will send out request for a reservation of the Card Room in 2019	Debra Kobus	1/8/2018
Diane will talk with Wendy about baking cookies and staff about the development of a visual; who should be at the Card Room; and a sheet with talking points.	Diane Dalmasse	3/1/2018
Diane will speak with James about organizing a new member VR orientation packet.	Diane Dalmasse	3/1/2018
Invite Tara Howe, VR Youth Transition Program Coordinator, to an AOE meeting in May 2018 notifying her of date, time, and location. (Diane will provide a heads up to Tara about the request).	Debra Kobus	3/1/2018

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8) Discussion 2018 Priorities and next steps		
35 minutes	Group	
Discussion	The Card Room is a priority (see discussion above) and we should focus on collaborating with the Youth Core Transition Teams and Creative Workforce Solutions (CWS) to best advocate for employment for all individuals with disabilities in the 12 regions in the state.	
Conclusions	See minutes from #7 above as substantial discussion on this topic occurred then. Further discussion will occur.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
See minutes from #7 above.	n/a	n/a
9) Other Business		
5 minutes		
Discussion	None	
Conclusions	.	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
None	n/a	n/a
10) Adjournment		
0 minutes	Sarah Launderville	
Discussion	Max moved to adjourn. Marlena 2 nd . All approved.	
Conclusions	Adjourned at 1:52 pm	
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Full Draft minutes emailed to Committee Members	Debra Kobus	2/2/2018
Full Draft minutes uploaded to http://vtsrc.org/members/draft-minutes/	Debra Kobus	2/2/2018
Minutes approved by Committee	Committee Members	3/01/2018
Approved minutes uploaded to http://vtsrc.org/about/meeting-minutes/	Debra Kobus	3/06/2018