

**Department of Developmental Services
Consumer Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes
May 17 & 18, 2005

Members
Attending

David Miller
Nyron Battles
Debra Beeter
Daniel Dawkins
Tina Ewing-Wilson
Colette Madore
Lori Sloan
Donald Roberts
Betty Pomeroy
John Graber
Kim Rucker

Members
Absent

Leland Jacobs
Robert Margolin
Thomas Michaels

Others
Attending

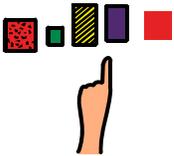
Kris Leino
Gabriel Rogin
Sandy Hanson
Kim Morris
Jolynn Manwarren
Angel Wilson
Devon Swedmark
Kim Warmesley
Clyde Pomeroy
Scott Griego
Carol Risley
Kathleen Ozeroff
Frank Martinez
Sherry Beamer
Mark Starford
Marty Omoto
Bob Benson
Barbara Ward
Alice Hamdi
Vennia Friedman
Mark Felgen
Aaron Able

May 17, 2005



1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Donald Roberts, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.
- b. Everyone introduced herself or himself.
- c. Announcements were made. An adapted summary on making motions and voting was handed out to all the Committee members.
- d. The agenda was reviewed and modifications were discussed. **It was moved (John Graber), seconded (David Miller), and carried to approve the agenda with the modifications.**



2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF “MAKING CHOICES” BOOK

Mark Starford presented a draft of the “Making Choices” booklet and the accompanying sticker book. He explained that choosing pictures, icons, or symbols that represent things is hard because sometimes symbols, that are familiar to us, are trademarks under copyright by large companies. He gave the golden arches as an example of a familiar symbol. The golden arches reminds most people of hamburgers. However, it is the copyrighted trademark for a familiar fast food restaurant and cannot be used by anyone else to represent hamburgers.

Some times companies allow others to use their copyrighted symbol for a charge, or sometimes they don't allow it at all. So it is important to make sure that the symbols published in the CAC books are OK to use and not in violation of the copyright laws.

The Committee reviewed the draft of the "Making Choices" booklets and decided to change a few of the symbols and pictures in the sticker book and add to the instruction section.

It was moved (Kim Rucker), seconded (Lori Sloan), and carried to approve the "Making Choices" booklet and sticker book with the recommended changes.

3. ADAPATION PROJECT

Mark Starford and Sherry Beamer discussed the upcoming Adaptation Workshop that will be held on June 25, 2005, at Alta California Regional Center. The purpose of this workshop is to get input on developing a CAC work in progress, the "How-to-Guide for Making Material Easy to Understand". This guide will provide examples and instruction on how to adapt materials and make them consumer friendly by using plain language, pictures, and simple technology.

Along with Mark and Sherry, David Miller and Debbie Beeter will be co-teachers at the workshop. Flyers and letters of invitation will be sent out to Northern and Central California People First and other self-advocacy groups. Participants will be asked to bring materials they would like to make easier for people to use, such as board or committee meeting documents, IPP, or self-advocacy handouts.

4. STATE BUDGET UPDATE



Marty Omoto and Bob Benson of the California Disability Community Action Network did a presentation on the State budget update. Marty gave an overview of government from a national, state, and local level. He talked about positive and negative budget proposals affecting persons with disabilities nationally and statewide and gave handouts about this information.

5. CAC MEMBER REPORTS



The Committee discussed making the Member Report Session more structured, focusing on their Committee work in the community during this time, and waiting until the Member Session to discuss personal work and issues. **It was moved (Debbie Beeter), seconded (Lori Sloan), and carried, with one abstention, to limit the CAC Member Report session to reporting on Committee work in the community.**

Nyron Battles, John Graber, Lori Sloan, Betty Pomeroy, Daniel Dawkins, and Colette Madore gave reports. (See attached reports from community).

6. HOSPICE CARE



Kathleen Ozeroff, and Barbara Ward, Nurse Consultant for DDS gave a presentation on the concept of life long person-centered planning. They explained that people's activities, health care, and treatment needs change as they age or get sick and that it is important to plan for these changing needs and make individualized decisions regarding one's own life from start-to-finish. The Committee expressed interest in

learning more about hospice care and advance care directives.

7. DDS CONSUMER SERVICES COORDINATOR POSITION



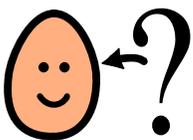
Carol Risley gave an update regarding the application process for the DDS Consumer Services Coordinator position. The first screening of applications has been completed and interviews of qualified applicants will be scheduled. Second interviews with the DDS Director and Deputy Director will be held with the most qualified applicants. The selection will be made by the Director, pending approval by the Governor's Office.

8. ARCA CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT



Nyron Battles gave a report on the ACRC CAC meeting that was held in May 2005. He distributed adapted handouts on the subjects that were discussed, which included: proposed changes to social security payments, the Governor's budget highlights, and the proposed closure plan for Agnews Developmental Center. The next ACRA CAC meeting will be held in August 2005.

9. ASK CAROL?



Carol Risley presented on the Section 8 Voucher Proposal legislation that has been presented in the United States Congress. This proposal would change the existing Section 8 Voucher program and replace it with a new flexible Voucher Program. She distributed information regarding the proposed change.

She gave an overview about the new Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan provided an information sheet about

the plan in an adapted format. She explained that this new plan will not affect everyone, only those that are Medicare eligible or Medicare and Medicaid eligible (dual eligible). Those that are dual eligible will obtain their prescription drug benefits under a different plan beginning January 2006.

Carol also discussed and answered the Committee's questions regarding the proposed legislation regarding the expansion of the Self-Determination Waiver program.

10. CAC MEMBERS' CHECK-IN SESSION



Members met with Kathleen Ozeroff. The members, that chose to, gave reports about personal activities and issues they wished to share with the Committee.

11. FACILITATORS' CHECK-IN SESSION



Mark Starford and Sherry Beamer met with the facilitators.

10. ADJOURNMENT



The meeting adjourned at 4:45.

May 18, 2005

1. CALL TO ORDER



Donald Roberts, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 8:30.

A. Announcements

Travel arrangements and scheduling problems were discussed by the Committee. Donald Roberts reminded

members to let Frank Martinez know of any changes or preferences in travel schedules. Some members stated that their travel arrangements required them to leave prior to the end of the meeting due to coordination of ground and air transportation schedules. **It was moved (John Graber), seconded (Tina Ewing-Wilson), and carried to switch item #10, Assignments and Next Steps, and item #3, CAC Member Reports, so that people whose travel arrangements required them to leave early would not miss hearing their assignments.**

Kim Rucker discussed the importance of respectfulness of all members during the CAC meetings. **It was moved (Kim Rucker), seconded (John Graber), and carried that ground rules would be developed to maintain respectful and professional Committee behavior.**

2. ACTION ITEM



It was moved (Kim Rucker), seconded (Daniel Dawkins), and carried to approve the February 16 and 17, 2005, minutes.

3. CAC ASSIGNMENTS AND NEXT STEPS



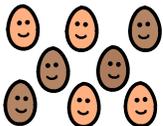
Mark Starford and Sherry Beamer discussed general and specific Committee member assignments. Assignments for everyone included legislative advocacy activities, such as attending hearings, visiting legislators, assisting with voter registration, and writing letters to legislators regarding issues like Section 8 housing and In Home Support Services.

Each Committee member was asked to test the “Choices” booklet, by using it his or herself, and to report on it at the August CAC meeting.

Debbie Beeter and David Miller have individual assignments to participate in the June Adaptation training at Alta California Regional Center.

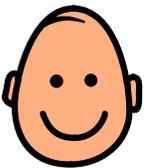
Donald Roberts will work with a subcommittee in developing CAC ground rules to present at the next CAC meeting. Subcommittee members will be; John Graber, Tina Ewing-Wilson, Kim Rucker, and Nyron Battles. The subcommittee will meet via tele-conference.

4. CAC MEMBER REPORTS



David Miller and Donald Roberts gave reports on their Committee work in the community. (See attached).

5. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF “CONSUMER SATISFACTION TOOL”



Mark Starford and Sherry Beamer presented on the status of the companion set “Satisfaction Guide” workbook and the accompanying DVD. The DVD film-maker, Mark Felgen and his assistant Aaron Able, showed the Committee the draft of the DVD which was about Daniel Dawkins’ life after leaving the developmental center. The Committee agreed that the DVD accompanying the workbook was an effective way to communicate about satisfaction to persons who may not read. The Committee provided feedback that there should be room in the workbook for people to say what they don’t like and are not satisfied with, as well as what they do like.

It was moved (John Graber), seconded (Daniel Dawkins), and carried to move the DVD ahead as it was presented to the Committee today.

6. OLMSTEAD ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Donald Roberts presented on work as a member of the Olmstead Advisory Committee for the State of California. He presented a summary of the Olmstead Decision and a summary of the Olmstead Advisory Committee meeting that was held on March 11, 2005.

7. HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW: INTRODUCTION TO THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS



Vennia Friedman, from DDS, did a presentation on the legislative process and tips in meeting with and writing to legislators. She recommended that people get to know who their legislators are and who, on their staff, handle issues regarding persons with disabilities.

8. NEXT YEAR'S PROJECTS

The Committee discussed projects that will continue next year. They include continuation with the "Adaptation Guide" and a new project focusing on leadership development.

The Committee also talked about discussions on increasing work opportunities for people with disabilities and the role of job coaches. It was suggested that someone from the DDS Habilitation Section do a presentation on the role of job coaches at an upcoming Committee meeting.

9. END OF MEETING



Donald Roberts adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM.