

Background:

Minutes of the May 3, 2012, Project Development Committee meeting are included for your review.

**Project Development
Committee**

Agenda Item 3.

Expected Action:

The Committee will review, revise as appropriate, and approve.

TEXAS COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2012

DRAFT MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Susan Vardell, Chair	Andrew Crim	Diana Kern
Dana Perry, Vice Chair	Mary Durheim	Scott McAvoy
Kimberly Blackmon	Kathy Griffis-Bailey	Cindy Swain, TEA
Gladys Cortez	Jeff Kaufman	David Taylor

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Kristine Clark	John C. Morris
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GUESTS PRESENT

Gina Fuller – Attendant	Eric Jacobson, Georgia DD Council
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STAFF PRESENT

Martha Cantu	Melissa Loe
Joanna Cordry	Koren Vogel
Sonya Hosey	

CALL TO ORDER

The Project Development Committee met on Thursday, May 3, 2012, in the Majestic 6 room at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel, 400 North Olive, Dallas, Texas 75201. Chair Susan Vardell called the meeting to order at 1:50 p.m. A quorum was present.

1. INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS, STAFF AND VISITORS

Committee members, staff and guests were introduced.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Committee reviewed minutes of the February 9, 2012, Committee meeting.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the February 9, 2012, Project Development Committee meeting minutes as presented.

MADE BY: Andrew Crim

SECOND: Dana Perry

The motion **passed** unanimously.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

Committee Chair Susan Vardell reviewed discussions of the Executive Committee about the need to focus on the steady development of projects corresponding to the goals and objectives in the State Plan.

5. GRANTS AND PROJECTS REPORT

A. Staff Activities Report

A. Communications Report

Communication Coordinator Melissa Loe presented the Public information report and discussed the proposed public education campaign on accessible parking that will be reviewed with the Public Policy Committee. The Committee supported “accessible parking” as topic for public education campaign to meet State Plan Goal 3, Objective 1.

B. Planning Report

Planning Coordinator Joanna Cordry reviewed TCDD State Plan technical revisions. Cordry provided status of future project development activities; bidder’s conferences; Requests for Proposals; and proposed Executive Summaries to be considered by the Committee at the next meeting.

C. Grants Report

Grants Management Director Sonya Hosey reviewed grants and project reports. The Committee agreed to have at least 2-3 committee members to follow the status of the enabling technology projects. Andy Crim, John Morris, and Scott McAvoy volunteered. Hosey reported that the Arc of Gulf Coast declined a TCDD grant award for a Leadership Development and Advocacy project, citing changes in staff and leadership.

D. Projected Available funds

Operations Director Martha Cantu reviewed the TCDD Quarterly Financial Report including the Summary of Funds for FY 2009-2012; FY 2011 Expense Budgets; Current Grants and Contracts Projections; and Stipends Expenditures.

6. MEMBER UPDATES

The Committee received reports from Council members Dana Perry, Susan Vardell, Diana Kern, and Scott McAvoy about advocacy-related activities in which they have been involved. Perry reported that her involvement with TCDD informs her volunteer work with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA); Vardell reported on the success of her son’s Microboard; Kern reported volunteer involvement with SafePlace; and McAvoy reported on his involvement on the Culture Change Coalition supporting families and communities.

7. REAL COMMUNITIES INITIATIVES PRESENTATION

The Committee discussed the Real Communities Initiatives presentation to the Committee of the Whole by Eric Jacobson from the Georgia DD Council.

8. REVIEW OF PUBLIC INPUT TO THE COUNCIL

The Committee discussed the Council’s Cultural Barriers Forum held on Wednesday, May 2, 2012. The Committee also discussed activities to potentially address public comments, noting several strategies such as conducting outreach and building the capacity of communities to serve people who have been identified as being unserved and/or underserved.

9. STATE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND FUTURE FUNDING ACTIVITIES

The Committee reviewed progress made on State Plan Goals and Objectives and action to be taken in the next 3-6 months.

A. Building Community Capacity through Collaboration

The Committee reviewed and approved the Executive Summary “Building Community Capacity through Collaboration” to meet Goal 5, Objective 2 of the TCDD FY 2012-2016 State Plan. The Committee approved \$75,000 per grant project, for up to 4 projects, for up to 18 months for activities to help communities develop a plan that will be submitted to TCDD. Upon submission of a plan, each grantee will be eligible to apply for grant awards of up to \$150,000 per year for up to 5 years to implement their plan.

MOTION: To fund the two-phase “Building Community Capacity through Collaboration” project, with funding for Phase 1 up to \$75,000 per grant up to 4 grants for up to 18 months; and funding for Phase 2 up to \$150,000 per year for up to 4 grants, for up to 5 years.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez

SECOND: Dana Perry

The motion **passed** unanimously.

B. Outreach and Development Projects

The Committee agreed to again consider proposals for the five remaining Outreach and Development Projects, for up to \$10,000 per project per year for up to one year.

C. Support for Community Leaders to Build Informal Supports

The Committee discussed the Support for Community Leaders to Build Informal Supports, but there was no further action.

D. Support of Self-Advocates at Texas Conferences

The Committee reviewed and approved the Executive Summary “Promotion of Self-Advocacy of Texas Conferences” to meet State Plan Goal 6, Objective 2. There were three approved parts: (1) to support organizations hosting conferences to have self-advocates as presenters for up to \$125,000 for 1 project for up to four years; (2) to provide stipends to organizations hosting conferences to support plenary speakers for up to \$75,000 per year and any one event per organization may receive up to \$7,500; and (3) to sponsor concurrent sessions or tracks at conferences for up to \$75,000 per year total, with any one event receiving no more than \$7,500.

MOTION: To approve self-advocates as conference speakers.

MADE BY: Andrew Crim

SECOND: Diana Kern

The motion **passed** without opposition; Andrew Crim and David Taylor abstained.

E. Other Ideas

Crim made a few suggestions for possible future projects including consideration of contracting with HHS to add volunteer community organizations to the 211 network. Committee members and Council staff are aware of three statewide systems that provide assistance used to identify and locate community resource: 211; the Texas A&M Directory of Community Resources; and OneStar Foundation’s Texas Connector (not yet released publicly). Crim also suggested encouraging the Texas Education

Agency to obtain data on the percentage of ARD meetings conducted without students or parents present; developing a self-advocacy speaker's bureau; and developing a curriculum and demonstration for self-employment to be delivered to other school districts.

10. FUTURE PROJECT FUNDING PRIORITIES

The Committee reviewed and agreed to add #8: Building Community Capacity and #9: Support for Self-Advocates as Speakers activities to the Future Funding Activities Priorities List. All other items on the list will remain the same.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chair Susan Vardell adjourned the meeting at 4:51 PM.

Roger A. Webb, Secretary to the Council

Date