

North Dakota Brain Injury Advisory Council
December 21, 2016, 1:30-4:30 p.m.
DHS Polycom Locations

Advisory Council Members Present: Shannon Binstock (chair), Senator Tim Mathern, Kristine Medeiros, Nan Kennelly, Trina Gress, Joyce Wolter, and Karen Law

Absent: Pat Eide, John Wanecke, Tracy Barrett, Brittany Hunt, and Lee Red Horse

Others Present: Amanda Lund, Jamie Royster, Nickie Livedalen, Rebecca Quinn, Lauren Sauer, Lynn McGary, Kevin McDonald, Cheryl Anderson, Royce Shultz, Asa Omlid, Shila Thorson, and Jake Reuter

Welcome

Chair Shannon calls the meeting to order at 2:10pm (central time).

Review of Minutes

Senator Mathern moved to approve the minutes for both months. Joyce seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Vacancy Council Members

Gail Mooney – no longer a representative, so a state legislator will need to be selected to fill her spot. Senator Mathern did speak with Dick Anderson and thinks of him as a possibility. Shannon suggested Representative Schatz. Senator Mathern moves to allow Shannon to speak with the Representatives and to fill the position of the legislator position. Trina seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Lee Red Horse has never been to a meeting and is unreachable. Royce will reach out to see if he is interested.

Review of Bylaw Changes

Second reading of proposed changes to the bylaws. Items changed: Membership word changes. Clause for removal of members changed. Vice-Chair/Chair wording changed. DHS does not need to approve the by-laws. Shannon is elected as chair for 2 years; member council for 4 years. Nan moves to accept the by-law changes. Kristine 2nds. Motion passes, by-laws accepted as written.

Brain Injury Media Services Update

KK Bold, DHS, and Rebecca met this morning working on the development of the media campaign. Looking for 6-10 individuals for survivor stories. Looking for individuals in the Bismarck/Mandan area. If they live out of the Bismarck/Mandan area, and want to share their story, may be considered if they are willing to travel to Bismarck/Mandan. Kristine and Asa would like to be a part of the campaign. Amanda Lund would like to share her story. Shannon Binstock would like to be a considered as well and she also knows of someone else from the support group in Dickinson. Rebecca shared that KK Bold does not want to offend anyone and so if you have expressed interest in sharing and do not get contacted it is because they are trying to be as diverse as possible. Focus is to get this media campaign moving and start raising awareness.

Rebecca introduced Lauren Sauer as Stacie Dailey's replacement at the Department of Human Service Center.

Communications Subcommittee

Kristine introduced flyer that was developed. Changes were made to condense the Needs Assessment findings and added survivor highlights. Senator Mathern moves to give approval to the communication committee to proceed with the publication when it is finalized. Nan seconded and the motion passes.

Provider Coalition

Trina Gress provided an update and introduced the proposed brain injury definition change.

Traumatic or acquired brain injury is an insult from external force or internal damage to the brain or its coverings, not of a degenerative or congenital nature that produces a change in cognitive, behavioral, or physical functioning.

Senator Mathern suggested the Department of Human Services carry the bill to the legislature. Lauren states that he will need to bring that up to Pam Sagness at DHS. Shilha with the ND stroke taskforce; reminds the group that during the last session the issue with cost was the problem and that there was a duplication of care. The stroke system of care of really deals with the acute/prevention side of the stroke. Brain injury services impacted by the definition deal more with the rehabilitation side and what does the individual do after the stroke. Sen Mathern recommends that we accept the definition change and moves to ask Lauren to move the definition on to the legislature. Nan seconded. Motion passed.

NDBIN Update

Newsletter is out. Always looking for survivor stories for the newsletter. Brain Injury Awareness Day at the Capitol will be March 23rd. Mind Matters conference is March 24th & 25th in Bismarck.

NDBIN launching Unmasking Brain Injury. Program was started in North Carolina to raise awareness for brain injury. NDBIN will be partnering with agencies/support groups across the state to set up events for individuals with BI to decorate masks to display at the capitol in March. Joyce stated that they allow 2 hours for events similar to that and local libraries will save magazines.

Legislative Session

Senator Mathern proposes to take the bill proposal of making the council a Governor's Council to Representative Anderson to carry the bill to legislative session. Trina moves to approve Senator Mathern's proposal. Kristine seconded and the motion passed.

State Appropriated Funding

NDBIN, Return to Work, Voc Rehab slots for brain injury, and social and recreation funds are all state appropriated and will be part of the Department of human Services budget during legislative session. Legislature will be reviewing the use of the funds and we do need to take action to talk with legislatures in assuring that the funding does stay in place. Rebecca can send out an FYI and of when this is going to be brought up during session and when council members should be at the Capitol. If someone from the council is going to attend the session, Rebecca or Shannon need to know ahead of time so that everyone is on the same page. Trina poses the question of being put on the spot, when not planning on speaking. If you plan on attending session at all, have the flyer with the talking points and letting Shannon know that you are going to be there and what you may say if called upon. Do need as much of a presence as possible at the Capitol. Senator Mathern states that it is important to let the legislators know what hat you are wearing when speaking in front of the legislators.

Strategic Plan for Brain Injury for the State of ND

Plan was developed 10 years ago and updated summer of 2015. Was put on hold for the Needs Assessment and now that that is done, should we update the strategic plan. Senator Mathern states that we should have an updated plan to go in front of legislative session. A sub-committee needs to be formed: Trina and Nan volunteer as council members; Nan moves to form a sub-committee to work on the Strategic Plan, Tim seconded. Motion passed.

Other Attendee Information

Jake Rueter let everyone know that the MFP Transition Coordination program will end December 2017 – currently request to continue the program is part of the Governor’s budget. Funding for the housing incentive fund was not in the Governor’s budget. These funds allow for affordable and accessible housing. New funds are being sought out. Jake states that he can get the number of individuals that they have served with a brain injury to Rebecca.

Stroke/Cardiac Care Conference has scheduled their date: September 25th & 26th at the Radisson in Bismarck. Shila is willing to distribute a 1-pager of information from NDBIN at the signs and symptoms events across the state.

Shannon has been asked to be on the state board for the Independent Living Centers for ND as a voice for Brain Injury.

Next Meeting: DHS will look at Polycom availability for the quarterly meetings for 2017. Discussion was held regarding having the March meeting the afternoon of Awareness Day at the Capitol to get as many in-person as possible. Council members get reimbursed for travel and Rebecca will have the form and additional information.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.