

Clackamas County-Developmental Disabilities Council Meeting Agenda

2/26/2024

Meeting Time: 04:30 pm – 06:00 pm

Meeting Location: Zoom <https://clackamas-us-countyhealth.zoom.us/j/84480917908>

Attendees:

FACILITATOR	John Merrick		
NOTE TAKER	Malika Renard		
	vacant	P	Colleen Johnston (indiv/family), term ends 5/1/27
P	John Merrick (advocate), term ends 6/30/26	P	Kalkidan (Mimi) Ezra (provider), term ends 1/1/25
A	Jacob Tolbert (provider), term ends 6/30/26	P	Kim Cota (CDDP employee)
P	Shasta Kearns Moore (indiv/family), term ends 12/1/26	P	Stacie Mullins (CDDP employee)
P	Lisa Ledson (indiv/family member), term ends 12/1/24	P	Amy Butler (CDDP employee)
P	Sara Lambert (provider), term ends 1/1/27	A	Roxanne Cloutier (CDDP employee)
P	Sara Szwarc (indiv/family), term ends 5/1/27	P	Malika Renard (CDDP employee)
G	Jason Kemmerich (Guest)	G	Ken Hanson (CDDP employee)

	Key
P	Present
A	Absent
G	Guest

Time	Agenda	Minutes
4:30 – 4:50 pm	<p>***Reminder-council meeting will start recording***</p> <p>Call to order, establish quorum (4 members present), approval of meeting minutes from 10/23/23 and 1/22/24.</p>	<p>John: Call to order, is there quorum?</p> <p>Amy: We show 5 members, yes we have quorum.</p>

		<p>John: Moving forward to approval of the minutes if you have all had a chance to review them?</p> <p>Kim: Does someone want to make a move to approve minutes?</p> <p>Sara L: I'll make a motion.</p> <p>Sara S: Second.</p> <p>John: Seeking approval of them as distributed, any objections? Hearing none, the council approves the minutes for 10/23/23 and 1/22/24.</p>
<p>4:50 – 5:20 pm</p>	<p>Guest-Jason Kemmerich-Recreation Manager at North Clackamas Parks and Recreation</p>	<p>John: Discussion will open regarding North Clackamas Parks and Recreation and its offerings. Joining today is Jason Kemmerich from North Clackamas Aquatic Park. Jason, please introduce yourself and welcome!</p> <p>Jason: Thank you. I am the aquatic park manager. We had some questions sent to us from your group, so I'll read through your questions and the answers we can provide. After that we can go on, this will be a chance for me to take notes to take back to the group and see where else we can help support.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which opportunities are available for the DD community for social inclusion? NCPRD offers many DD-specific options, ranging from youth to adults, currently as follows: Winter, Spring and Summer social events (ages 15+), a Fall Halloween costume dance (ages 15+), the Rising Star soccer league (ages 8-25), the Spring Hawaiian Nights dance (ages 15+), Summer Camp event series (6 three-hour long Wednesday

morning camps for ages 12+), Dance and Cheer Stars, Adaptive and Inclusion Team (ages 12-25), Shooting Stars basketball league (ages 5+), and monthly sensory swims now (ages 3+), to name a few. Any questions about this at all?

Sara L: What about our 18+ adults?

Jason: I would be happy to get these questions back to our group and get clarity for you, as I can only speak to the Aquatics portion of events.

John: Thank you Sara L. and Jason for focusing on this particular point. We want to make sure adults who are 21+ are also recognized as such, as sometimes they are roped into "Youth" activities. This language can be confusing.

Sara S: I wanted to clarify with Jason, you said the sensory swims are ages 3+, does that include all ages?

Jason: Yes, all ages, not just kids.

Sara S.: Thank you, and have you heard of Mt. Hood Kiwanis camp? They are very strict on age. It would be nice to see congruity on age definitions across the board.

Amy: I was going to add that Shasta included a question in chat about whether there would be a link given that includes all this information that you've just given, Jason.

Jason: I will do my best to gather up some resources for you.

Amy: I also want to add that Johnnie Glenn is interested in participating in this discussion.

And Jason you had mentioned to me about the swims being once a month, and I thought it could be helpful for you to tell us the why behind the scheduling and why it is set up the way it is.

Jason: If there aren't any more questions on Question 1, then I can answer that in more detail in Question 3. (Repeats Question 1)

Shasta: I arrived late, and you were reading from a list, can we have that list?

Jason: Yes, I will type that up for you and will send it to Amy.

John: Do your programs work with other organizations within Clackamas County to promote and collaborate with other functions or programs, like cheerleading?

Jason: I will type this up and see what kind of answers I can get for you. Great question

John! For now, I can mostly speak to Aquatics, and I've been working very hard to get these monthly swims going, and we started these in October 2023, and the elaboration of any program depends highly on funding and staffing. We've taken into account lighting, sounds, and other things to help create a more inviting and inclusive space for folks to come enjoy aquatics. I would say we are still in the infancy stage of the collaboration piece, but it is on the horizon.

John: Clackamas County, do you have any ideas about collaboration?

Kim: I'm not sure that we have anything right at the moment John.

John: Alright, thank you.

2. Jason: Ok, so how do we advocate more swimming activities for people with higher sensory needs? We kind of spoke about this, but one of our big focuses right now is developing the sensory swims. My dream would be to see more foundational consistency in attendance so that we in turn can justify more sessions. We're also working on collaborations and sponsorships. (Gives some fiscal year statistics on swims)

Amy: Could you please clarify what A & I is?

Jason: Adaptive & Inclusion.

Shasta: So if NCPRD is only for North Clackamas, is here an umbrella organization to oversees things for the whole of the County?

Jason: A good question. I'm not aware of one. I will make a note of this too.

John: How can we help support you guys without overreaching?

Jason: Really great question John, I would like to take time to ponder over it. I think overall, I can say just people being fans of Parks and Rec goes a long way in terms of support and also being patient. We're definitely trying our best for you.

John: I really appreciate your time. Are there any other follow up questions at this time?

Kim: Jason, I know little about P&R, and its structure, but is there an advisory council at P&R?

Jason: Yes, we have a District Advisory Committee, they have their own process and are zone-based, and they advise the Board of County Commissioners. So they ultimately are overseeing things.

Kim: Ok, thank you. I was wondering about people having access to that committee to give that feedback so that would be constructive or formalized.

Jason: I believe public comment is also at both, unless it is an executive meeting which may be closed discussion. They would probably work with you to put your items on the agenda also.

Kim: Thank you.

Sara L: I hear and sympathize on the overworked and understaffed piece, but was wondering, in terms also of public comment, if there is an opportunity for us to collaborate with you and bring ideas we may have for activities or events? Less close to the County Commissioners side and maybe closer to your level? Is there any place for us to submit ideas?

Jason: I don't think we have something like that yet but love that idea. I'm prepared to steal your idea, Sara! I have taken a lot of notes today and I feel like we're rookies to this and will be building on these conversations.

		<p>John: Thank you so much Jason for coming and being a guest here with us today.</p>
<p>5:20-5:30pm</p>	<p>West Linn Adult Community Center Update-Sara Szwarc</p>	<p>John: Sara, did you have any updates on the West Linn Community Center? Sara S.: Well I spoke to Nicole Budden who is the activities director for the senior center and there will be additional dances coming up. I think it is a good thing to introduce conversations now about keeping adults with adults for these types of activities and events for every reason. So our conversation led to us discussing ideas and she volunteered an afternoon, preferably a Friday to have a discussion about activities and events, for adults with I/DD to come to the Community Center. She only works with the adults there. She would be prepared to host and facilitate after she obtains approval. Her only caveat is she leaves at 3pm, so it would need to fit into her schedule. Let me know if you are interested in that. In terms of other activities, it was interesting to hear North Clackamas talk about staffing since it seems their staff is mostly in charge of setting up, facilitating and staffing, whereas West Linn seems to be the other way around. There are teachers or members of the public coming to them and saying they want to have a certain activity. But it sounds like West Linn would be excited to give space for pretty much anything as long as someone comes forward to facilitate and make it happen with them. I have not reached out to Lake Oswego or</p>

		<p>Oregon City yet, but would be happy to over the next couple months.</p> <p>Sara L.: Thank you Sara. I think just the idea of having a social time is a great one. A lot of individuals don't necessarily want to do a predetermined activity, they just want to be social.</p> <p>John: Yes I think there is a lot of interest in these types of activities, and not necessarily only I/DD focused events, like the YMCA or the Metropolitan Family Services and their development in programming.</p>
<p>5:30-5:45 pm</p>	<p>ARPA updates-Amy</p> <p>DD Info Fair-Amy</p> <p>DD Brochure-Amy</p>	<p>John: Amy, did you want to update us on things?</p> <p>Amy: Yes, so the ARPA project is going along. They have selected their Steering Committee and will be moving forward with their topics. They're getting to the part of that work where we maybe start to find some solutions to some of the hiccups that we're facing. That's pretty exciting and starting very soon. As far as the Emergency Funding grant, that one, we're still working through some back end authorizations on the County side and we are also doing research on what options are available as far as supplies, kits and all of the things we might be able to have access to, and figuring out what folks actually need, so that things can be distributed in an equitable way.</p> <p>John: Are all disability levels going to be included in the distribution of those kits?</p> <p>Amy: Someone correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe everyone is eligible for those kits. If you'd like, Tim and Georgeta, who are in charge of ARPA grants, could come and speak with us about</p>

it at the next meeting if you would like more in-depth information.

Sara L.: Yes, I think that might be interesting.

John: Sounds good to me too.

Amy: So I'll move on to our information fair, we now have a date and venue. It will be June 22nd, 2024, at the Gregory Forum at Clackamas Community College. We can have 36 community partners total joining us. I think we meet this week for our next planning meeting on 2/28/2024. I think you are all on this invite and are welcome to join, so all suggestions are welcome as we plan. If you need the link again, please let me know and I will resend it to you. Hopefully we'll have good weather for that too. Along with that, we are out of our DD brochures, which are distributed at events, so we are pretty close to getting our new ones printed and would like to run that by you guys when we are ready to go to print. We did some adjustments to words and used some plain language to try and make them more accessible and would love your feedback. We're close to being done, but we have to work with PGA, another department that does the printing and makes sure we're in compliance etc.

John: That would be great. Are we doing any program updates today or just ARPA?

Amy: I don't think we have one on the agenda. I'll let Kim and Stacie speak if they want to but not that I'm aware of.

John: Mimi?

Mimi: Hi, this is a question for Stacie, Brooke or Kim. I want to begin by saying I know case workers

have big loads but many providers including myself are experiencing a lot of communication issues. We often do not get replies or responses from case workers. This can range from urgent crises to day to day communications. Is there any way that can be improved? Like taking responsibility?

Stacie: My quick answer is yes, we can improve this. Responsiveness coming out of the pandemic is something that we are focusing on. Also the responsiveness may differ depending on the unit you're working with, like the children's unit versus the adult residential unit and things like that. The other thing is we want to know about that when these things are happening so that we can address them.

Kim: Yes, what Stacie said.

Stacie: Thank you for bringing it up and sharing.

Mimi: Thank you.

Sara L.: I'd like to jump in and ask if that is something that is going to be discussed in the steering committee, I know this was an area of concern.

Brooke: Yes, Sara you are onto something with that. I think this will be included in the discussion surrounding communication issues and what we're going to do about that.

John: Thank you Brooke, I know you have a busy job but I appreciate you coming in for this type of conversation. Thank you Sara for asking. Any other questions on programming and updates?

Sara L.: I had a question on the DD Director. Do we know who that is?

		<p>Shasta: I think the decision is being made mid-March or something so not yet. John: That is what I heard too.</p>
<p>5:45 – 6:00 pm</p>	<p>Open floor (Council) - what other parts of the Clackamas DD program do the council want to learn about?</p> <p>Public comment (Public)</p>	<p>John: Looks like we have an open floor now. Shasta: I had a comment. Case workers usually send a monthly resource list, it would be great if these meetings were included on those so that people know they can show up and come to these meetings. Amy: That's me, I missed getting it out to PGA, so I will do that. Stacie: Thank you for the resource email feedback, we can take that back to our teams also. John: My hope is that we can always collaborate without overstepping our bounds. Amy: One more thing, if the Council wanted to get to know any other part of the program, we could have the come as guests, like licensing and abuse investigations. Sara L.: I think that would be great. Also, the Ombudsman, I have some concerns about their visits, unannounced. Would we be able to invite them here? I'd like to better understand their role. Kim: I know that the one we work with is outspoken and very involved. I don't know if the whole council wants to look at that but I could ask about her coming in, she could always refuse. John: Sara, please email Amy about this topic and Kim, let's put this in the notes so we remember it too, so we can continue this conversation, which is important.</p>

Sara S.: I think all teams could be beneficial to have come in, with my priorities would be licensing and the foster care teams, but all would be great.

John: Yes I agree. Kim, did you want to introduce the person behind you since they are an outsider to the council?

Ken H.: Hi, I'm Ken Hanson, I lead the Abuse Investigations team. Please also feel free to reach out to me with specific questions. It's good to be here. John and I met a few months ago and we had a great conversation, so I'm happy to share more and hear from you all as well.

John: Thank you for the reminder.

Any good of the order? I have my story but want to ask the rest of you. I see no hands. For me it is to compliment Oregon City's Bowling Team at the state competition. The coach in particular is helping people develop their skill sets. Also Wilsonville Cheerleading. Parents and the community came together when kids were waitlisted to create an app and provide opportunities for the kids. Even though they aren't necessarily DD related, I think it's important to be inclusive of them also.

Kim: Sara, I put the link to the Long Term Care office in the chat. [Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman | Oregon Public Guardian Program | Residential Facilities Ombudsman Program \(oltco.org\)](#)

John: Thanks Kim. Do we have a call to close the meeting?

Sara L: Yes, I'll move to close.

[Undetermined member]: Seconded.

		Meeting adjourned.
Next Meeting	March 25th, 2024, 04:30pm-06:00pm	