

WATAP Advisory Council Meeting

Wednesday, October 8, 2014 – 11:00am-3:00pm

In Attendance: Samantha Murphy, Debbie Cook and Newton, Aditya Ganapatharaju, Sue Ammeter, Maria Kelley, Jack Brummel, Naomi Namekata, Meka White and Lester, John Bresko, Vicki Gilleg, Alan Knue, Gaby de Jongh. Via teleconference: Julie Peddy

Agenda

Council and WATAP Staff Happenings, Updates, and Upcoming Events

- Aditya was featured in the Sunday Seattle Times with his sweet, modified ride
- Jack passed out flyers for their anniversary/fundraising event with speaker John Hockenberry from NPR who will talk about UD, AT, and disability rights; the event is November 11th at Town Hall (8th and Seneca)
- Naomi reported that DSB has their open house on Tuesday, October 7th and had about 24 folks show up
 - How can they reach more folks and get better turn out? Have it in other locations outside of Seattle, target different age groups/populations (ie – families, folks with TBI, aging populations, folks with MS, etc.)
 - What about inviting vendors? If it's a small event then vendors aren't likely to show up.
- Meka reports the WCB event will be at the Hotel Morano in Tacoma, Oct 30 – Nov 1. WATAP and the Access Fund will be at WCB
 - Vicki was wondering if there is a calendar of events? We will send out event information to the watap-ac, watap-at-providers-group listserv's and post them on our FB page as well
- John reported on the success of their Combines Summer Institute, SETC presented a lot of instruction on AT topics. Smarter Balance Assessment consortium, there still is controversy with kids with sensory disabilities and how they will access the test.
- Vicki reports the DVR contract with WATAP is complete, the ATPs received AT 'kits.' Trainings are evolving, councilors are afraid of technology and would like more hands on ability to have more hands on and interactive. Area 2 manager has been hired. High School supported employment is implemented statewide.
- Aditya works on the ADA KT grant, latest project is posting regional success stories of accessibility and disability. Will post new stories to the watap-ac listserv.
- Sue reports issues with state websites that are not accessible to individuals who are blind, a taskforce has been established to address this however feedback given to legislators doesn't seem to be going anywhere.
 - Debbie says accessible websites are not required, but they are desired.
- Alan reports the contract with ODHH is complete for iCanConnect (also known as the National Deaf Blind Equipment Distribution Program). WATAP will be responsible for intake, assessment, equipment purchase, and setting up training for individuals. Equipment has to be used for telecommunications and internet purposes for Deaf Blind individuals.
 - Naomi asked if there a limit to the number of hours for training? Individual must have keyboarding and Braille skills.

Other Business

- a. Demo road show planning – would folks be available to help out with staffing and providing demos?
 - In conjunction with DVR trainings
 - Spokane, January 23rd – Naomi will bring it up at the DSB AT meeting in November
 - Central WA in the Spring 2015
 - Open House in smaller communities
 - the Peninsula - Sue would like to help coordinate this one
 - Vancouver
 - Bellingham
 - In conjunction with current conference (specifically ones that target consumers)
 - Consumers would already be at the conference and not have to figure out transportation
 - We would need to test to see if we get people pre-registered, if being able to do a demo was worth missing another session.

Technology Sharing

- Lift Spoon – absorbs tremors of the user and stabilizes the utensil for self-feeding
- Uplift Seat Assist – gives a bit help when sitting down and getting out of a chair, works best in chairs without castors and with arms; Vicki and Jack renamed it the “Ass Jack”
- Vtec CareLine + Home Safety Telephone System

Committee Updates

- a. Reuse Coalition Committee – disbanded for the time being until we have coordinated plan
 - Jack has a bunch of older CCTVs, the ILOB program may take some, InterConnection will also accept them as donation
- b. Website Committee – mock ups were sent out for feedback on color and box shapes
 - Vote for slogans for the website – Better Living through Technology (2 votes), Technology for Independence (8 votes)
- c. Executive Committee
 - Kurt Johnson likes to come to these meetings, due to his teaching schedule he isn't able to make Wednesdays; possibility of changing days? In February, the meeting will take place the first Wednesday (the 4th); future meetings will be moved to Thursday.
 - New Member recruitment
 - ACIL-WA needs to appoint someone to replace Ken
 - Need to replace 2 consumer positions – would like to start with nominations
 - We reached out to the Deaf Blind Service Center, the Veterans Association, TBI council, CILs in Spokane and Ellensburg, WCB
- d. Event planning Committee – history of WATAP, highlights from partners, celebrate 20 years, technology through the ages
 - Venue – Center for Urban Horticulture
 - Catering – light refreshments, booze (budget \$1,500); Sue will contact blind caterer
 - Dates that would work – Thursday, May 7
 - Start/end time
 - 5:00 – 6:00 social hour
 - 6:00 – 6:30 program time
 - 6:30 – 7:00 wrap up

- Invitees list – send out ‘Save the Date’ 6 months ahead
 - Should we include +1’s? – no, let people choose how many are coming
 - RSVP to attain rough estimate head count 1-2 months ahead
 - Invite strategic partners and specific agency directors
 1. WATAP – 15
 2. Advisory Council - 15
 3. Access Fund - 20
 4. ATPN – 18
 5. Reuse Coalition –
 6. Agency Directors –
 - a. ODHH
 - b. DVR
 - c. DSB
 - d. SETC
 - e. DDA
 - f. DDC
 - g. Governor’s Committee
 - h. Cinda
 - i. SILC
 - j. NW ADA Center
 7. Workforce Investment - Erica Hanson, Elainee