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### DRAFT MINUTES

Name of Organization: Nevada Assistive Technology Council (AT Council)

Date and Time of Meeting: August 19, 2016 @ 11:00 AM

This meeting will be held and video conferenced at the following locations:

Reno: Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center  
1875 Plumas St., Suite 1  
Reno, NV 89509  
775-333-7878

Las Vegas: Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center  
2820 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 11  
Las Vegas, NV 89102  
702-257-8150

To join this meeting by phone, dial 1-888-363-4735 then enter Access Code 1228133 when prompted.

Meeting Materials Available at: <http://adsd.nv.gov/Boards/ATCouncil/Agendas/>

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Introductions  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Members: Scott Youngs, Frieda Aizenman, Hentjie Apag, Havander Davis, Victoria Essner, John Rosenlund, Mechelle Merrill

Absent: Thomas Kearns, Brian Patchett

Staff: Rique Robb, Tanya Keith

Guest: Dora Uchel, Jack Mayes

Ms. Keith verified a quorum was present.

2. Verification of Open Meeting Postings  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

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Ms. Keith verified the meeting was posting in accordance to Open Meeting Laws.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 20, 2016 Meeting (For Possible Action)  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Ms. Aizenman and Mr. Apag identified several corrections.

Mr. Rosenlund motioned to approve the May 20<sup>th</sup> minutes with noted corrections. Mr. Apag seconded. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item.)

Mr. Youngs announced the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) is looking for members with disabilities who are not related with a Nevada State Agency or a Center for Independent Living (CIL). Interested persons can contact the Aging and Disabilities Services (ADSD) Office.

5. Review the AT Council's Position Paper to vote on new project. (For Possible Action)  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

(Attachment A) Mr. Youngs recapped the Letter to the Governor written by the State Website Accessibility Taskforce (SWAT). That project has moved forward, an update will be discussed later. He directed the council to review the Priorities, Practices and Goals from the Position Statement from 2015. He asked the council to consider what the project is for the next year.

Mr. Rosenlund stated the Nevada Assistive Technology Collaborative (NATC) is looking for information to give to Community Partners. He asked the AT Council membership to suggest any issues, or concerns they may have. The AT Council is the advisory board for the Collaborative and those programs with mandated projects. He would like to see the AT Council working with more direction from the NATC.

Mr. Youngs read aloud the Priorities, Practices and Goals from the Position Statement. He said Item Six: "Advocate for the accessibility of websites in State Agencies and services provider organizations" has been address by a Letter to the Governor. The status of that letter is some fine tuning details are being finished. He is creating a generic letter head for the document for now, and the letter will be sent soon. He mentioned he would like an official letterhead for the council, with a "tag line" that sums up what the council is.

Mr. Rosenlund suggested putting the AT Council letterhead development on the next agenda. Mr. Youngs reminded the council that the website does have the mission and vision statements. He encouraged the members to submit any drafts or ideas at the next meeting.

Mr. Rosenlund suggested more promotion of the AT Council and the NATC in general. His suggestion is to make a brochure/booklet with the Annual Report data and publically distribute it. Ms. Aizenman asked what the AT Council goals are in other States. Mr. Rosenlund answered each state handles Assistive Technology differently. Ms. Aizenman suggested the Department of Education can be a starting point for distribution.

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Mr. Youngs suggested creating a single point of access for this type of data to be distributed. Mr. Youngs asked who would pay the cost of the brochure/booklet being produced. Mr. Rosenlund answered it would fall under state leadership activities and be covered by the program. Mr. Rosenlund stated a pamphlet would assist in clarifying the duties of the AT Council and the NATC, while advertising opportunities to the communities at large.

Mr. Youngs added he has a draft matrix for AT providers, and suggested putting that out to an online portal for all inclusive, one stop accessible access. Mr. Apag asked how current the matrix is. Mr. Youngs answered approximately 2 years old. He's certain many are still good, but others will be outdated and will need audited. He also suggested this would fall in line with items number 1 and 4 on the position statement. Ms. Aizenman asked how would these information sources be updated, either the brochure or a website? Mr. Youngs answered it would have to be a collaborative effort.

Mr. Rosenlund stated that one on one interaction is more valuable than a portal, but they cannot do so if the information isn't readily at hand. He reminded the council that there are many such portals that are not efficient as they must be kept current. Nevada's structure for AT technology is stable and does not change; leading to a printed document would be effective. Mr. Rosenlund added the Nevada 211 and the ADRC for one-stop information resources as well. He feels the council's energy is better served providing information for them to add to their existing lists. He feels the CILs role is getting the new members of the community in touch with available resources. Ms. Merrill suggested the council writing a script to provide for the CILs and resource centers when a call comes in.

Mr. Youngs stated that the Council's presence and mission is what should be the focus. Ms. Merrill stated resource information is the role of the Independent Living Council more than the Assistive Technology Council. Mr. Apag added the CIL's should be able to evaluate a consumer, and then give the AT Council as a point of information. Mr. Youngs agreed, stating that an early childhood AT issue is different from an adult/older person's AT issue.

Mr. Youngs asked the council if there are any other topics that members wish to address. Mr. Rosenlund restated that he feels the promotion of the Council should be priority with the AT Collaborative. Mr. Youngs agreed and asked it to be placed on the next agenda, with information on the different funding resources and credit options for consumers to get AT, and should be considered in the proposed booklet/brochure.

Mr. Rosenlund and Ms. Aizenman added that there is a Facebook page available for spreading information. Mr. Apag asked Mr. Rosenlund to bring in samples of what it could look like, and samples of how other states create their booklets/brochures. Ms. Merrill stated her agency has similar documents that they use. One type of document is created for federal submission and the other for the citizens of Nevada. Mr. Rosenlund said these types of promotional booklets/brochures would go to legislators who are voting on concerns that affect the Council. He added this could be sent electronically and could be made in accessible digital formats.

6. AT Act Program Updates, Discussions and Presentations: Reviewing 2015 Annual Report.  
John Rosenlund, ADSD

Mr. Rosenlund covered the statistics from the 2015 Annual Report for the AT Programs. He stated under the state financing Nevada has 2 programs, the Care Loan Fund is a financial lending program

for assistive technology. The second is the State Assistive Technology for Independent Living (SATIL) program; which is coordinated through ASD and services are provided under a grant.

The Care Loan fund program:

- 4 individuals within the State, participated and received funds for:
  - Vision
  - Daily living
  - Vehicle Modification/Transportation
  - Recreational Sports & Leisure

State Assistive Technology for Independent Living (SATIL):

- 915 were served in the categories of:
  - Vision – 2 consumers served
  - Hearing – 11 consumers served
  - Speech/Communication
  - Learning Cognition/Developmental
  - Mobility, Seating/Positioning – 22 consumers served, 827 pieces of equipment distributed
  - Daily living – 24 consumers served, 525 pieces of equipment distributed
  - Environmental Adaptations – 168 consumers served = \$977,000
  - Vehicle Modifications/Transportation – 43 consumers served = \$267,000
  - Computers & Related
  - Recreation, Sports & Leisure
- The types of services included:
  - Device Lending
    - Two community partners who have current technology ready for consumers to borrow.
    - 138 Different devices loaned
    - 129 Individuals receiving loaned devices
      - 43 Vision
      - 3 Hearing
      - 13 Speech/Communication
      - 14 Learning/Cognition
      - 13 Mobility, Seating/Positioning
      - 6 Daily Living
      - 3 Environmental Adaptations
      - 0 Vehicle Modifications/Transportation
      - 43 Computers & Related
    - 21 Days, average length of a device loan
      - Care Chest in the north does fundraising activities and obtains funding to buy new equipment
        - Open ended loans = 265 consumers
          - These people do not hit the wait list
        - Cost savings of \$10,231
  - Device Demonstration
    - 151 different devices
    - 213 participants in demonstrations
    - 173 referrals coming in for these demonstrations
      - 14 from non-AT programs
      - 135 from service providers
      - 24 from vendors
  - Reutilization

- Nevada Assistive Technology exchange through Easter Seals in the South. Devices are refurbished and redistributed to those in need through a Craig's-List style website.
  - Reassignment, Refurbishment & Repair = 650 consumers
    - These people do not hit the wait list
- Cost savings to individuals: \$512,000

Information and Assistance:

- 1,422 Instances reported from all community partners
- 29,059 Public Awareness, includes materials produced and provided
- 345 Individuals received training through the NATC
- Technical Assistance (state wide)
  - 8% Education
  - 42% Employment
  - 10% Health & Rehabilitation
  - 35% in Community Living
  - 5% Information Technology/Assistive Technology/Telecommunications

Mr. Rosenlund explained the sterilization process with the device called a "Hub Scrub" used on the Durable Medical Equipment (DME) to prepare it for redistribution. Ms. Aizenman asked if it is a similar process to "New to You Computers". Mr. Rosenlund said yes it is, and it's done through Easter Seals and Care Chest so the cleaning process has been standardized. He talked about the Ability Tools Conference he attended in April, and sanitation of redistributed items is a major concern nationwide. He stated that the AT redistribution programs do not distribute computers. The items are usually donations by family members from a loved one who has passed on.

Mr. Rosenlund stated that in the case of Care Chest, often they are given items they haven't had experience with. They will research the item, and then redistribute as needed once it's been learned how it's used. He stated it is a huge effort and he appreciates it, as the cost savings to consumers has always been more than the funding received annually by the program.

Mr. Youngs suggested temporary hand controls or vehicle modifications could be loaned out for driving accommodations. Mr. Rosenlund stated he was concerned about the liability. Ms. Merrill commented rental car fleets can make those accommodations. Mr. Rosenlund and Mr. Youngs confirmed yes, but an individual can be waiting for a while to receive that rental vehicle. Mr. Youngs and Mr. Rosenlund discussed a community member who has temporary hand controls. They lend them out on a scheduled basis. Mr. Youngs commented these styles of temporary controls are available online. Mr. Rosenlund clarified as long as a policy is in place; there isn't any assistive technology he would be opposed to lend out.

Mr. Youngs commented that when he has worked conferences and events before, it was difficult to count and track all the participants and who received which service due to sheer numbers. Mr. Youngs stated he tends to go through many business cards at such events to request interested consumers to receive additional information and training follow up. Mr. Rosenlund added there are performance and survey measures that are required to be reported. He clarified this report is used for Congress to make decisions and determinations.

7. AT Collaborative Updates and Reports from Partners  
John Rosenlund, ADSD

Mr. Youngs gave the report from the Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities (NCED). He stated many of the loans they provide are vision related, and for augmented communication devices. He noted an increase in contact from parents of younger children who have multiple needs, such as vision issues combined with a physical disability and require an augmented communication device. He stated among barriers, they are finding power chair manufacturers need to include and build in affordable electrical charging stations on the powered wheel chairs to run all of the assistive technology needed. He stated the \$1,200 option on the powered wheel chair is more than many families can afford and yet have questionable reliability. He currently has a wait list of 10 families who need this type of technology. Mr. Rosenlund stated many aftermarket modifications void the chair's warranty and cause increased hardship on the families. He stated specialized mounting hardware must be installed to accommodate these charging systems. Mr. Youngs stated it is difficult keeping these families in the program. He is working on a way to find other sources of complex rehabilitation for the families in this situation. Ms. Aizenman asked if this sort of assistance is more along the specialty of Vocational Rehabilitation. Mr. Youngs answered these are children who are too young for the Employment system. He said they would likely transition to that system. He clarified these parents have tried other resources such as schools, vendors and physicians and haven't received assistance. He states these children are aged preschool to teen.

Mr. Youngs added he would like to hear a report from the Southern Partners.

8. Update, Review and Consideration of the AT Council Membership and Possible Council Elections (For Possible Action)

John Rosenlund, ADSD

Mr. Rosenlund stated that he will be contacting the council member's one on one to review their terms and status as members of the council, and will be contacting the Director's office for the appointment dates. He announced everyone is currently in their correct term and he is working with the Disabilities Chief to implement an internal process for maintaining and following up on membership status. Ms. Robb asked that if members have copies of their appointment letters, to please share them if possible.

Mr. Youngs added that once this becomes cleared up, council elections will need to be held. Mr. Rosenlund added that there are 21 positions available on the council, but it is not clear if they are individual positions or long running positions that have simply been replaced. He will follow up with the Director's Office.

9. Discussion and Possible Determination of Issues and Agenda Items to be Considered or Deliberated at the Next Meeting (For Possible Action)

Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Mr. Youngs covered Standing Items:

- Agenda Item six: "AT Act Program Updates, Discussions and Presentations: Easter Seals Assistive Technology program"
- Removed agenda item seven
- Discussion of future NATC Goals: promotional campaign
- Add an action agenda item for letter head vote

10. Confirm next meeting Date (For Possible Action)

Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Mr. Youngs clarified the AT Council will be meeting every other month. Mr. Rosenlund requested a Doodle Poll sent out to select the date, the date range from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>th</sup> of October. Ms. Essner asked to not have the meetings on Fridays due to previous commitments. Mr. Youngs would like to keep the meetings the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of every other month.

11. Public Comment (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item)

Ms. Dora Uchel stated the CareChest Loan applications are not accessible online. She cannot pay the loan over the internet, and has to call in to make her payment. Also she commented that the Vocational Rehabilitation website is not accessible. Many people she knows cannot complete their applications. She noted also that on the Nevada Disability and Advocacy Law Center's website, the program page link to the application does not either work, or there is no application available online.

No further comments were made.

12. Adjournment

Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Ms. Merrill motioned to adjourn. Mr. Rosenlund seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm

NOTE: Items may be considered out of order. The public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. The public body may place reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of public comments but may not restrict comments based upon viewpoint.

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**Current Assistive Technology Council Members**

Scott Youngs (Chairperson), Frida Aizenman, Hentjie Apag, Havander Davis, Victoria Essner, Thomas Kearns, Mechelle Merrill, Brian Patchett, John Rosenlund, Scott Sauer

**NOTE:** We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who have disabilities and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Tanya Keith at (775) 687-0551 as soon as possible and at least five days in advance of the meeting. If you wish, you may e-mail her at [tanyakeith@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:tanyakeith@adsd.nv.gov). Supporting materials for this meeting are available at: 3416 Goni Road, #D-132, Carson City, NV 89706 or by contacting Tanya Keith at (775) 687-0551 or by email at [tanyakeith@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:tanyakeith@adsd.nv.gov).

