



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION

Administrative Office
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MINUTES

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

Date and Time of Meeting: February 10, 2015
1:00 p.m.

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

Reno: Northern Nevada Center for Independent Living
999 Pyramid Way
Sparks, NV 89431
(775) 353-3599

Las Vegas: Rebuilding All Goals Efficiently (RAGE)
2901 El Camino Ave., Suite 102
Las Vegas, NV 89102
(702) 333-1038

To join this meeting by phone, dial 1-888-251-2909 then enter Access Code 8985078 when prompted.

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

Minutes

- I. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

A quorum being present, Mr. Youngs called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Members Present: Frida Aizenman, Hentjie Apag, Havander Davis, Victoria Essner, Thomas Kearns, Jesse Leaman, Brian Patchett, John Rosenlund, Scott Youngs

Members Absent: Mechelle Merrill, Scott Sauer, Rena Smith

Public Present: Janet Belcove-Shalin, Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center; Reggie Bennett, Rebuilding All Goals Efficiently; Gujuan Caver, Desert Regional Center; Cheri Day, Nevada PEP; John Heiner, Nevada Department of Education; Jack Mayes, Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center

Aging and Disability Services Division Staff Present: Vicki Kemp, Diane Scully

- II. Approval of the Minutes from the December 9, 2014 Meeting. **(For Possible Action)**
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Mr. Rosenlund noted on page 4, Item VII, third paragraph, parties is spelled incorrectly. Mr. Youngs noted on same page and item, second paragraph, beneficial is spelled incorrectly.

Mr. Rosenlund made a motion to approve the minutes with noted corrections. Mr. Patchett seconded. Motion carried.

- III. 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.)

There were no comments from the public.

- IV. Report from the Subcommittee to Draft Position Paper on AT Issues, Followed by Discussion, Possible Revisions, and Possible Approval of the Draft Position Paper **(For Possible Action)**
John Rosenlund, Subcommittee Chairperson

Mr. Leaman asked if assistive robotic devices could be added to the list of types of AT in the second paragraph where talking computers and software is listed.

Mr. Apag said he likes the paper, it's one page and simple.

Mr. Patchett added he appreciates the work Mr. Rosenlund and Mr. Youngs did in putting this together, and agrees it's a good document.

Mr. Patchett made a motion to accept the document with the addition suggested by Mr. Leaman. Mr. Apag seconded.

Mr. Kearns said he's concerned with the State's lack of ability to communicate with all populations, and would like to add making State websites accessible to the list of Priorities, practices and goals. Mr. Leaman said it could be part of number two in the Basic Principles. Mr. Rosenlund noted, and Mr. Patchett agreed, that there's to be a second, longer, back-up document further explaining the issues in the Position Paper where that could be included.

Mr. Caver said he's happy to hear this discussed as he's attended meetings with Janice John, Deputy Administrator of the Desert Regional Center, discussing the

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and how to institute it's requirements more effectively, and agencies communicate more effectively. He added there's another meeting on February 13, 2015 and he will let them know of the AT Council's work and that accessibility is an issue of concern for the Council.

Mr. Patchett amended his motion to include accessible websites. After some discussion, this will be added as number six under Priorities, practices and goals, reading, "Advocate for improving website accessibility in both the public and private sectors." Mr. Apag seconded. Vote was taken, motion carried.

Mr. Rosenlund asked about the name of the document. Mr. Patchett suggested "Nevada Assistive Technology Council Position Paper."

- V. Update and Possible Discussion and Recommendations on Legislative Issues Related to Assistive Technology (For Possible Action)
John Rosenlund, ADSD

Mr. Patchett said there's not much to report at this time, however, Bill Draft Request (BDR) 978 will have language related to IL, Blind Services and AT. Mr. Kearns asked if there will be a hearing on that. Mr. Patchett said they are still working on language for the bill but will distribute it to AT Council members when it's available and would appreciate input from the Council, specifically identifying needs related to AT for IL.

- VI. Discussion and Possible Recommendations on Improving Individualized Education Programs in School Districts (For Possible Action)
Scott Sauer, Council Member

Mr. Patchett said SB 13 has language related to this issue.

Ms. Aizenman said blind students aren't given adequate time to learn Braille and the National Federation of the Blind is working on a Braille Bill to ensure students get the instruction they need.

Mr. Sauer was not in attendance, so further discussion on this item will be postponed to a future meeting.

- VII. Presentation on Oklahoma's Process for Making Websites Accessible
John Rosenlund, ADSD

Mr. Youngs said George McKinlay has done research and claims that he can go to any state website and find accessibility issues. Mr. Youngs said it's expected there will be some issues, but there are basic requirements that need to be met. Mr. Youngs and Mr. McKinlay went before the Nevada Equal Rights Commission to present this issue, including the lack of accountability within the State, and he will provide minutes from that meeting to the Council members. He said the Commission was receptive but did not provide any direction. Mr. Youngs said he would like a document requiring all State websites to be accessible.

Mr. Rosenlund said there is a presentation on the steps Oklahoma took to improve accessibility that's been made at a number of AT conferences, and that could be used as a guide.

Mr. Kearns asked if the National Federation of the Blind could partner with the AT Council and make a presentation to the State to get this issue moving. Mr. Youngs said that's a good idea and while he would like to avoid a lawsuit, if the issue can't be resolved in other ways, a lawsuit is not out of the question.

Mr. Kearns said there are 58,000 blind people in Nevada and about 25 percent of them are not heard from because they can't access services. Mr. Kearns said he doesn't like to say it, but it seems the State is playing a shell game, making advocates go to each agency. While that's time consuming, it's also unproductive, what one agency does has nothing to do with other agencies.

Mr. Youngs asked if there was anyone else, or any other group, that should join them in this endeavor, to make a recommendation to the Equal Rights Commission to move this forward. If so, please let Mr. Youngs know.

Mr. Youngs suggested forming a subcommittee to investigate and pursue this issue. Mr. Kearns will be the chairperson, with Ms. Aizenman, Mr. Youngs and Ms. Essner being members. Mr. Rosenlund noted that Ms. Scully will be leaving ADSD so support for the Council will be limited until a replacement is hired. Mr. Youngs suggested each subcommittee member do research until a meeting can be scheduled. Ms. Aizenman asked if the meetings could be by telephone. Mr. Kearns said that would be fine.

Mr. Kearns made a motion to create a subcommittee to investigate website accessibility in Nevada. Mr. Davis seconded. Motion carried.

VIII. Discussion and Possible Determination of Issues and Agenda Items to be Considered or Deliberated a Next Meeting (**For Possible Action**)
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

In addition to the standard items, additional items should include a report from the Website Accessibility Subcommittee, and items not discussed at today's meeting. Mr. Rosenlund said an item to review the AT Collaborative Annual Report should also be added.

IX. Confirm next meeting Date, April 14, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. (**For Possible Action**)
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

The date and time of the next meeting, April 14, 2015 at 1:00 p.m., was confirmed. Ms. Scully will contact the Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center for use of their video conference rooms (Reno and Las Vegas) since the NNCIL is discontinuing their video conferencing equipment. Confirmation of the locations will be on the agenda.

- X. **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. Bennett asked if there were websites or applications to determine if websites are accessible and tools to make them so. Mr. Youngs said there are. He added there are sites that will check, often for no charge, if the URL is provided, noting www.WC3.org as one. These sites can be found by typing “web validation service” in the search bar.

- XI. **Adjournment (For Possible Action)**
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Mr. Youngs adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

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.

Current Assistive Technology Council Members

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

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 Diane Scully 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 dmscully@adsd.nv.gov. Supporting materials for this meeting are available at: 3416 Goni Road, #D-132, Carson City, NV 89706 or by contacting Diane Scully at (775) 687-0551 or by email at dmscully@adsd.nv.gov.

Agenda Posted at the Following Locations:

1. Aging and Disability Services Division, Carson City Office, 3416 Goni Road, Suite D-132, Carson City, NV 89706
2. Aging and Disability Services Division, Las Vegas Office, 1860 East Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104
3. Aging and Disability Services Division, Reno Office, 445 Apple Street, Suite 104, Reno, NV 89502
4. Aging and Disability Services Division, Elko Office, 1010 Ruby Vista Drive, Suite 104 Elko, NV 89801
5. Southern Nevada Center for Independent Living, 2950 S. Rainbow Blvd., #220, N. Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146
6. Disability Resources, 50 E. Greg St Suite 102, Sparks, NV 89431
7. Nevada State Library and Archives, 100 N. Stewart Street, Carson City, NV 89701
8. Desert Regional Center, 1391 So. Jones Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146
9. Sierra Regional Center, 605 South 21st St., Reno, NV 89431
10. Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center, 1875 Plumas St., #1, Reno, NV 89509
11. Northern Nevada Center for Independent Living, 999 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431
12. Department of Health and Human Services, 4126 Technology Way, Carson City, NV 89706
13. Bureau of Vocational Rehab, 1325 Corporate Blvd., Reno, NV 89502
14. Rebuilding All Goals Efficiently, 2901 El Camino Ave., Suite 201, Las Vegas, NV 89102

Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet: <http://www.adsd.nv.gov/> and <https://notice.nv.gov/>