



September 29 , 2009

TO: Executive Committee

FROM: Kay Metzger

SUBJECT: Appointments to LCOG's Disability Services Advisory Councils

The Disability Services Advisory Council operates on an October 1 - September 30 yearly cycle. The terms of most members on the council are staggered. The Disability Services Advisory Council Bylaws allow members to serve up to six years. The length of a term is two years; therefore members can serve three consecutive terms before "limiting" out.

This memo presents the Disability Services Advisory Council's recommendations to the Board Executive Committee regarding appointments that take effect on October 1, 2009. The Council met on Friday September 11, 2009 and approved the following recommendations.

Appointments to the Disability Services Advisory Council:

- a. Membership Report: According to the Council's Bylaws, the maximum number of members allowed is fifteen. On September 30, the terms of four general members will conclude. Of those four general members, three are eligible for reappointment. Additionally, one member has resigned from the DSAC. The one year term of the Community Representative (there is one) will expire on September 30, 2009.
- b. Recruitment Activities: Prior to selecting recruitment strategies, the Council's Nominating Committee determined that three of the four current members eligible for re-appointment desire to be re-appointed. The current Community Representative wishes to retain her status and is not interested in full membership due to work commitments. Given these findings, the Nominating Committee concluded that it could fill up to four full member seats with new candidates, and up to four Community Representative slots. Once this number was established, it determined that the following

recruitment strategies would be pursued to maximize diversity of membership and identify prospective candidates: (1) ask Nominating Committee and DSAC members to solicit applications from people known to them, (2) send announcements to local human service agencies that work with people with disabilities informing them of the opportunity, and (3) send an announcement to the local media. Implementation of these strategies produced five new applicants.

The Nominating Committee met two times to deliberate and to interview new applicants. Four candidates were persons with a disability, one candidate was a member of the community. The DSAC Bylaws require that more than 50% of its members be persons with a disability. This standard was easily met. The Nominating Committee recommendations were presented to the Advisory Council on September 11th. The Council's recommendations are set forth below. (A summary of the qualifications of the new candidates for appointment to the DSAC is attached.)

c. **REQUESTED ACTIONS concerning appointments to the DSAC:**

- (1) That the LCOG Board re-appoint the following Council members to two year terms (October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2011):
 - Tim Baxter, Eugene;
 - Jessica Harris, Eugene;
 - Scott Whetham, Cottage Grove.
- (2) That the Board appoint the following candidates to full membership on the Council for a two year term, effective October 1, 2009:
 - Robert Fritson
 - Kathy Jenness
 - L.M. Reese
- (3) That the Board appoint the following individuals to one year Community Representative positions on the Council, effective October 1, 2009:
 - Terry Parker
 - Nicole Dayton
 - Linda Hamilton

Attachment

Summary of Qualifications:
Recommendation for Appointment as a Member
of the Disability Services Advisory Council

Robert Fritson, Mapleton: Mr. Fritson initially was appointed to the Senior Services Advisory Council in 2008. However, rather quickly he identified a greater interest and affinity with the work of the Disability Services Advisory Council. Thus, Mr. Fritson has been attending Disability Advisory Council meetings for approximately one year, and has been an active and effective participant. He has over 20 years experience as a military nurse and has been physically disabled since 1984. Additionally he served as a Long Term Care Ombudsman volunteer for over one year.

Kathy Jenness, Pleasant Hill: Ms. Jenness is a person with a disability who has been an active and effective advocate for many years. She has been a member of the Disability Services Advisory Council in the past, and effectively chaired the Advocacy Committee for several years. Ms. Jenness currently is on staff with Lane Independent Living Alliance, working as a peer mentor to train people with disabilities to be employers of home care workers. Additionally, she is employed by Lane Transit District as a transit host and doing travel training for people with disabilities.

L.M. Reese, Springfield: Mr. Reese has previously served on the Council, having served as Chair for two of the six years he was an active member. He has participated in several conferences for people with disabilities, both as an attendee and a planner. He is the current Chair of the Lane Transit District Accessible Transportation Committee. Mr. Reese brings with him a wealth of experience in effectively advocating for and educating people about the needs of those with disabilities.

Summary of Qualifications:
Recommendation for Appointment as a Community Representative
of the Disability Services Advisory Council

Linda Hamilton, Eugene: Ms. Hamilton is employed by the Lane County Sheriff's Office as a Parole and Probation Officer. She has extensive training and experience working with clients with disabilities, including trainings on domestic violence and abuse of elders and people with disabilities. Ms. Hamilton is involved with the following groups: Human Rights commission, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Human Services Commission, Community Alliance of Lane County, and the Lane County Elder Abuse Multi-Disciplinary Team. Additionally, Ms. Hamilton understands the challenges of living with a disability from a personal perspective, as she had a family member with a disability whose life was cut short at an early age.

Nicole Dayton, Eugene: Ms. Dayton is currently a student at the University of Oregon, with an interest in becoming a music therapist. She is a person with a disability and has volunteered at both Lane Community College and Monroe Middle School. Ms. Dayton states she would like to make a difference in the lives of "future people with disabilities" and is particularly interested in accessibility issues such as improving sidewalk access and increasing the number of electric doors in the community.