

# **Community Advisory Council Meeting**

**Wednesday, November 6, 2019, 12:00 to 3:00pm**

**Vermont Association of Blind and Visually Impaired,  
60 Kimball Ave, South Burlington, VT**

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## **12:00 Lunch**

1. Have some food and say hello.
2. Review agenda and handouts.

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## **12:10 Welcome**

- 1.

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## 1:15 CDCI Priorities This Year

1. Jesse will share priorities based on feedback from CAC, people at CDCI, and our partners. There was a separate document sent to CAC members with more information.

### **Priorities are shared by core function:**

- a. **We teach:** New courses and partnerships.
  - b. **We support:** New Partnerships, evaluation, and plans for Think College and Early Mobility projects.
  - c. **We study:** Plain language summaries of studies, new report on diversity, new grant application.
  - d. **We share:** CDCI project videos and stories, accessibility for our documents, support accessibility of our partners.
  - e. **We build:** Language access plan, diversity recruitment, orientation, professional development, and budgeting.
2. Council members will be asked for their feedback on what should CDCI do to succeed at these priorities. rientationreport on diversi

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## Meeting Minutes

### Agenda Item #1: Intros, Roles, and Review of Minutes

- ◁ **Members present (9):** Max Barrows, Ed Paquin, Mary Alice Favro, Persephone Ringgenberg, Meagan Roy, Kirsten Murphy, June Bascom, Nicole Villemaire, and Karen Topper.
- ◁ **Members not present (4):** Karen Price, David Frye, Kris Medina, and Liliane Savard.
- ◁ **CDCI:** Jesse Suter, Rachel Cronin, Jeanne Nauheimer, Valerie Wood, Bryan Dague, and Elizabeth (from Kenya).

### Meeting Roles:

Timekeeper: June

Jargon Buster: Ed

Keeper of the Rudder: Kirsten

Recorder: Jeanne

Processor: Nicole

Facilitator: Max

### Meeting Minute Review:

- ◁ Max provided a summary of discussion and decisions made at the last meeting. One edit was suggested to change wording in membership vote.
- ◁ -Alice  
seconded, motion passed with 8 voting in favor, 0 against, and 1 abstention.



- ◁ Ed suggest this be about how this organization 1. Organizes itself; and 2. Does its business. It may be helpful to omit language that details federal guidelines.

### **Action Items:**

- ◁ Topper and Mary Alice to find time to meet and go through content Topper has started created so far and continue to review the rest of the bylaws.
- ◁ Jesse will be available for support.

### **Agenda Item #4: CDCI Priorities (with Jesse Suter)**

#### **Discussion**

- ◁ Jesse shared the 2019-2020 Priorities for CAC Feedback document.
- ◁ We will share new priorities each year.
- ◁ These are priorities based on feedback from CAC and CDCI personnel.
- ◁ This is not everything CDCI will do this year. It lists things we want to make sure we do.
- ◁ CDCI will use this list to help:
  - make sure the money CDCI can spend is going to the things we want to support the most,
  - look at what personnel want to or need to learn so we can do our jobs well, and
  - make the most with the time that we have.
- ◁ Persephone asked about whether or not CDCI has considered sponsoring self-advocates and family members at events and

conferences. This was added to the suggestions list kept by Rachel Cronin.

◁ Goal 1: We Teach

Members asked for clarification on the third priority: What does taking classes at our university do to help?

Kirsten asked if have considered connecting with Vermont Care Partners and other organizations who offer trainings in our network. The most common barrier that continues to come up is the costs of taking courses.

Topper commented it would be helpful to have anecdotes/examples of these priorities telling the stories of the people who have found success

Training staff: DC discussed a high-school career path for support services. University tuition will always be an issue.

LEND gets ½ tuition for items that are run through their grant, which pays for the faculty salary.

Having self-advocates teaching more and get paid for that model.

◁ Goal 2: We Support.

This is the bulk of the work done at the Center.

Nicole emphasized the importance of the Think College program, which needs to find a source of funding to be sustainable.

Share the most basic ways we evaluate satisfaction/training.

Conduct needs assessment to understand our populations.



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Mary Alice would like to circle back to the recruitment process and would like to see current data for CDCI. Nicole would like to have an update on the priorities related to self-advocates being co-teachers and presenters. Topper suggested looking at bylaw language (at least 30 minutes).

Mary Alice and Kirsten have requested 15 minutes for Membership Committee.