



ARIZONA

GOVERNOR'S

COUNCIL ON SPINAL
AND HEAD INJURIES

MISSION

Increase awareness and understanding of traumatic brain and spinal cord injury, strengthen services and supports for those who have sustained injuries and their families and promote prevention to enhance quality of life.

Notice of Virtual Public Meeting
Governor's Council on Spinal and Head Injuries
Full Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

GoToMeeting

This virtual meeting is open to the public. Registration is not required to attend via GoToMeeting. Meeting information is available on <https://headspineaz.org/>. The Go to Meeting link will be open for access (live fifteen (15) minutes prior to the meeting start time of 1:00 pm AZ time on September 9, 2020

Attendance:

Voting Council members: Tammy Abbott-Thiel, Kristen Bishop, Alex Hishaw, Michael Lavoie, Jonathan Lifshitz, Tara Pepiton, Evan Werk, Kay Wing, Keith Watt, Oliver Bryan, James Sieffret, Mary Lu Bushnell, and Jim Ledgewood.

Non-voting Council members: Kristen Mackey, Tim Flood

Staff and contractors: Ann Tarpy, Sylvia Aguilar, Jesse Deaver, Carrie Collins-Fidell, Carol Lopinski, Lindsey Powers, Tiffany Wilkinson

Public: Tomi St. Mars

Minutes

1. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions

Dr. Jonathan Lifshitz, Acting Chair, opened the virtual meeting at 1:02. He welcomed the participants and invited the Council members to introduce themselves.

2. Voting Items

- Draft Minutes from September 9, 2020

The draft Minutes from the meeting on 9/9/2020 were made available to the Council members for review prior to the meeting. Acting Chair Lifshitz called for a vote to approve the draft Minutes; Keith Watt so moved, and Tara Pepiton seconded the motion. Unanimous approval. Ms. Tarpy will change footer in the Minutes from draft to approved with the date and post on the Council website.

- Approve the BIAZZ request to submit Letter of Interest to participate in the NASHIA Learning Practices Academy for Criminal and Juvenile Justice

Ann Tarpy shared a brief power point that explained the Learning Practices Academy that the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA) created to provide consultation to states on special topics. Their first Academy will focus on Criminal and Juvenile Justice. The Academy would provide Direct state technical assistance and consultation related to: Assessment and Creation of work plan & goals w/focus on outcomes and sustainability Applicants eligible to apply to be part of the Academy are the state head injury program or the state brain injury alliance or association. A. Tarpy discussed that as the BIAAZ has done some ground work in this area and has an interest in applying, they need Approval from the Council and our commitment to stay informed of the BIAAZ's progress three times over the twelve month period of the

Academy (calendar year 2021). Acting Chair Lifshitz motioned to approve BIAAZ's request to submit a Letter of Intent to participate in NASHIA's Learning Practices Academy for Criminal and Juvenile Justice, and Tammy Abbott-Thiele seconded the motion. All members voted affirmatively except for Keith Watt, who abstained.

- *Proposed 2021 Full Council Meeting Schedule*

The proposed 2021 Full Council Meeting Schedule was made available to the Council members for review prior to the meeting. Acting Chair Lifshitz called for a vote to approve the proposed schedule; Tammy Abbott-Thiel so moved, and Michael Lavoie seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

3. Council SFY 2021 Budget

- Report from Finance and Budget Office Administration Report

Sylvia Aguilar, Financial Analyst in the Finance and Budget Operations Administration (FBOA) provided an update on the status of the current spending for the FY 2021 budget. Currently we are underspending our budget compared to this time last year. Kristen Mackey stated that Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) was seeing an overall reduction in client spending and approximately a 40% reduction in referrals and VR applications. She indicated that vendors could meet with clients face-to-face if they and the client were comfortable, although they were permitted to provide services virtually as well.

- SHIF update

Sylvia Aguilar stated that collections for SHIF currently are down about 4% from last year. FBOA's projected amount for SHIF this state fiscal year is \$1.7 million. If the Council continues to underspend, funds could be used to cover expenses.

- The reach of Council funds

Ann Tarpay shared information about Council funded virtual services and events provided in September and October (e.g. Resources Facilitation, Support Groups, educational conferences, TBI trainings) by the BIAAZ and the Educational Consultant to demonstrate the reach of the Council dollars to a variety of audiences statewide. We have even had individuals attend from other states.

Kristen Mackey indicated there was still no Wait List for VR services. Ms. Mackey stated that while there had been a decrease in VR participation, RSA was able to use funds to increase technology for counselors and staff.

4. Shaping the future direction of the Council

- Discussion of responses of Council members

Carol Lipinski provided a powerpoint summarizing the responses of Council members to questions posed by Acting Chair, J. Lifshitz and A. Tarpay to help shape the future of the work of the Council. The summary Report and a copy of the presentation will be made available in the Padlet for the Council Members. Council Members shared their feedback on the Responses.

5. Tentative agenda for February 10, 2021 Council Meeting

Acting Chair Lifshitz requested that Council Members send any agenda items to Ann Tarpy and himself. Ann Tarpy stated she would request a presentation from the Department of Health Services to report on the recently released Child Fatality Review Report.

Council Member Updates

Kay Wing stated that before COVID-19, she traveled to Jamaica and Haiti, to provide services to individuals with limited resources. It was a humbling and insightful experience.

Carrie Collins-Fidell stated BIAZZ will continue to be housed at Ability 360 but are moving next door to Suite to co-locate with Joni and Friends.

6. Call to the public

The call was made, no response.

7. Adjournment

Acting Chair Lifshitz asked for a motion to adjourn. Tammy Abbott-Thiel moved, and Jonathan Lifshitz seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.