



IDDEAS Advisory Council Meeting Minutes Summary

Date: 03/26/2024

Time: 1:00-3:00 PM

Summary:

- Meeting began at 1:06 pm. Meeting Minutes from February 2024 were approved and introductions were made for council members.
- Council members provided updates. Michelle provided updates from RMHS' Community Advisory Council (CAC). During the March's CAC meeting, council members discussed the case management agency redesign, member recruitment, and sustainable management of the CFDF budget.
- Brian shared that he has participated in and helped facilitate two focus groups with the Kelsey as part of a study of housing issues facing folks with I/DD in the Denver metro area. Jordan Mulholland also shared a link to a public survey for the same assessment and encouraged members to share the survey and/or take it themselves.
- Corey shared that they have begun to host an accessibility hour to proceed every IAC meeting and provided an overview of how to access public documents on the new IDDEAS website now that we are no longer using the G: Drive.
- IAC meetings will continue to be held the last Tuesday of every month from 1- 3 pm; unless this time becomes prohibitive for any member of the council and then we can revisit rescheduling
- Alison Butler with Human Rights and Community Partnerships Division for Disability Rights presented on Good Access is Good Businesses
- Aspen DeField with Denver Parks and Recreation presented on Adaptive Recreation
- The IAC will meet on Saturday April 20 at 1:00 pm at Tonantzin Café for a voluntary social gathering and then head over to Access Gallery to check out the art. We will not be conducting official business.
- Next meeting is Tuesday April 30 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Discussion topics for next meeting: Brian requested an update from Alison Butler on Good Access is Good Business. Corey invited suggestions for additional meeting content. No other requests or suggestions made. No other agenda items confirmed at this time.



IDDEAS Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

3/26/2024 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Council Members:

Lindsay Westmiller
Brian Be
Stefanie Gross
Michelle Dumay
Kizzly Blue
Beth Bevilacqua

Guests:

8 guests

Absent:

Kaley Day
Brienne Wode
Chris Patton

DHS Staff:

Michaela Hennig
Corey Boyle
Jordan Mulholland
Jordan Humphreys

II. Call to Order

Meeting began at 1:06 pm.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from 2/27/2024 were reviewed and approved with council vote. 3 out of 5 attending members approved, 1 abstained vocally and 1 did not vote.

IV. Introductions of DHS staff and advisory council members

- Introductions of the attending council members were made.

V. Council and Partner Updates

- Community Advisory Council (CAC) – Michelle provided updates from the Community Advisory Council on March 19, 2024. The CAC received a CMA (case management agency) update. This was not an easy transition. They are trying to handle the disconnects and problems the I/DD community has been experiencing. There's been a lot of discussion about how this should have been done differently and how to



ameliorate some of the difficulties. The CAC is also looking for new advisory council meetings. They have a flyer that is under review. The CAC also discussed the CFDF (Client and Family Directed Funds) and how to manage the funding sustainability to serve the greatest number of eligible Denver residents.

- Brian noted that there is a place for public comment in this meeting. Brian thanked those who provide public comment.
- Brian noted he is the self-advocacy coordinator with JFK Partners and a community artist. Brian is participating in two different focus groups run by The Kelsey looking at housing issues facing greater metro residents with connection to I/DD.
- Jordan Mulholland announced a survey related to the same study by The Kelsey and encouraged folks to complete it. Jordan posted the survey in the chat.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdaotMoPzsMgLT8rEJ-uc1ZxwEB_BPyOTKcuY8Uv7aXStSi3w/viewform
- Kizzly noted in the chat that Guided by Humanity will host an All-Inclusive Fashion Show on May 12, 2024.
- Corey noted that they hosted the first accessibility hour prior to the monthly meeting to help folks learn how to utilize zoom, process meeting materials, and address individualized support needs. Corey will continue to hold accessibility hours moving forward from 11:45 – 12:45 pm.
- Corey noted that IDDEAS will no longer be using the G:Drive to share public files. Instead, files will be hosted on the IDDEAS website. Corey shared their screen and reviewed how to access the advisory council webpage and where to find the link for upcoming meetings and meeting minutes and files for past meetings. Corey invited anyone to reach out to them for support in accessing these materials. Brian requested that Corey share this information at future meetings as well to re-orient everyone.

VI. 2024 Scheduling

- Corey has scheduled out meetings for the remainder of the year for the final Tuesday of the month. Corey asked for council members to provide input on their preference for scheduling (Last Tuesday of the month from 1 – 3 pm; or First Thursday of the month from 10 am – 12 pm). Respondents told Corey they would be fine with either. Corey requested any further feedback.
- Stephanie, Beth, and Lindsey expressed the preference to stick with Tuesday from 1 – 3 pm; Brian shared that last month a voting member who was absent from today's meeting voiced a preference for Thursday.



- It was decided to maintain the meeting schedule of the last Tuesday of every month from 1 – 3 pm; unless that becomes prohibitive for folks, then IDDEAS council can revisit re-scheduling for a different day.

VII. Good Access is Good Business

- Alison Buter with Human Rights and Community Partnerships Division for Disability Rights presented on their new program Good Access is Good Businesses.
- Good Access is Good Business seeks to help interested businesses assess their physical space and policies and develop a plan for better accessibility and give stamp of approval as “Disability Friendly” (meaning that it is meaningfully usable by people with disabilities) that businesses can post in their windows. The stamp will feature DDR’s mascot “Ada” (after the Americans with Disabilities Act). Good Access is Good Business is all voluntary and not punitive
- Good Access is Good Business is looking for businesses to volunteer to participate. Email: disabilityaccess@denvergov.org or <https://youtu.be/CRDEdBIK8Kg> if you are a businesses who would like to participate or if you’d like to refer/recommend a business to participate
- Michelle asked if there will be a list of businesses that participate and receive a “Disability Friendly” sticker. Alison confirmed that there would be.
- Michelle suggested they include a QR code on the “Disability Friendly” sticker so patrons know that there is a list of “disability friendly” stickers. Alison will share this suggestion with her team for the next round of stickers.
- Michelle noted that members of the disability community often struggle with accessible parking. Michelle asked who in the city regulates and enforces accessible parking spaces. Alison noted that the US Access Board as well as Denver Local Building Code determine the number of accessible spaces that are needed. The Right of Way Enforcement and Police Officers have authority to enforce the use of these spaces. Alison noted that in Denver, however, not every business is required to have parking. There is also a bill being discussed in the state legislature to increase accessible parking: HB21-1161:
https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2024A/bills/2024a_1161_ren.pdf
- Stefanie asked in the chat: “ Thank you for sharing! You may have mentioned this with ADA, but can you speak to what incentive programs are you running?”

- Allison provided the following answer in the chat: “Thanks for the question. The incentive is if a business is determined to be disability friendly (whether from the beginning or after completing a development plan), they will get a sticker for their window to show they are "Disability Friendly", they will be mentioned in our social media, and they will be included on our website under Disability Friendly Businesses. We do not have any financial incentives to offer, but we will work to provide resources the business may use to help them become more accessible.”

VIII. Break at 2:04; Reconvened at 2:09

IX. Denver Parks and Rec Adaptive Recreation

- Presentation by Aspen DeField from Denver Parks and Rec. Aspen is a recreational therapist with Denver Parks and Rec. Recreation therapy works to make sure that people with disabilities get full benefits of recreation in ways that are meaningful and fun.
- Adaptive Recreation was founded 1986 and serves folks across the lifespan.
- Aspen provided an overview of the following programs: Adaptive Programs; Transition to Recreational Activities in the Community (TRAC); Special Olympics Sports, and Inclusion Support Services. Each of these provides different inclusive services for members of the community, and through these services and programs, everyone benefits.
- For more information, reach out to adaptive.recreation@denvergov.org.

X. Public Comment

- Corey shared that there were no written public comments submitted prior to the meeting.
- Several minutes were held open for public comment. No one made public comment. Public comment was closed with a vote of 4 out of 4 attending members.

XI. Planning an In Person Get Together

- This will be an informal, social gathering at the request of the council. We will not be conducting official business but will be getting together for fun.
- Decided on Tonantzin Casa de Café at 1:00 pm on 4/20/24 and then over to Access Gallery afterwards to check out the art. Folks who want to hang out longer can walk over to Renegade afterwards.



XII. Planning for Next Meeting

- Tuesday April 30, 2024 from 1 – 3 pm with accessibility hour from 11:45 – 12:45 pm
- Corey requested feedback on meeting content. Brian requested brief update from Alison an update on Good Access is Good Business. No other suggestions/ideas forwarded, although there is an invitation to email Corey with additional thoughts/questions.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

IDDEAS Advisory Council sessions are recorded; recordings are usually available upon request. Please contact DHS's IDDEAS program with any clarifying questions related to these minutes.