

FADSB Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 8, 2021

FA-DSB Members in Attendance:

- Deborah Hammer, Chair, Mount Vernon District
- Brandis Ruise, Vice-Chair, Lee District

FA-DSB Members Absent from the Meeting:

- Judith Turcott, Secretary, Fairfax City (excused)

Others Present:

- Claudia Vila, Delali Osei-Boateng, Karen Kelly (DFS staff)

The board conducted a wholly electronic meeting because the COVID-19 pandemic made it unsafe to physically assemble a quorum in one location or to have the public present.

Board members and staff support accessed the meeting via the Zoom web platform. All board members stated calling from their home district.

Members of the public accessed the meeting via a Zoom link.

Minutes and Agenda:

Call to order: Roll call was conducted at 5:36 p.m. to establish that a quorum was present and that all could hear.

Public Comment: None.

Minutes: Minutes from the March meeting were approved by Deborah and seconded by Brandis.

Executive Committee Meeting Items:

FY 2022 Initiatives:

- Judith volunteered, via email, to lead up the disability training initiative. Deborah offered to share a presentation on disability 101 and general classifications to assist with the planning stages.
- Deborah would like to dig deeper and determine action items for each initiative. She used housing as an example, wanting to learn more about the topic before solidifying action items. She would like to know where the need of housing lies. Deborah stated that creating a road map might be appropriate to establish a baseline and obtaining data prior to creating specific action items.
- Claudia shared that the Office of Human Rights has done education around reasonable accommodation and housing and suggested that the board look into their past education efforts to see if something has been done around this topic.
- Deborah would like to invite Valerie Berkley, Project Hire Coordinator, who works in Prince George's (PG) County. Her job is to promote employment opportunities

in PG county. She primarily works to assist persons with developmental disabilities.

- Deborah would like to pick back up the initiative that focused around language in job postings, to remove the automatic requirement for driver's licenses.
- Deborah would like the board to take a look at the county's web accessibility. She wondered if there is currently a county employee that ensures that access is being provided at all times. She discussed that there are private businesses that provides this service to companies.
- Deborah asked that Claudia's team provide an update on services that county agencies provided during the pandemic. Delali will present an update at the February meeting.
- The board discussed surveying the disability community either via a survey or focus groups. Claudia brought up previous needs assessments and ensuring that there is sufficient diversity in the individuals who are surveyed. She stated that her office could assist with publicizing the survey via its internal networks but that it might be difficult to take on most of the surveying. Claudia suggested a needs assessment survey that focused on surveying non-profit partners and obtaining information about trends they are seeing through their clients. Deborah liked the suggestion and would like to propose that to the board.

Best Strategies for Supporting the FA-DSB:

Deborah stressed the importance of ensuring that members felt supported and felt their opinions were heard. Brandis would like the board to do a task analysis at the full board meeting before delving deeper into the action items for each initiative.

Other Business:

Deborah reminded the group that Tom Bash was leaving the board and that he would be additionally absent at the November meeting.

At 6:21 pm a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned by Deborah.