



University of Guam CEDDERS
Guam System for Assistive Technology
Advisory Council
General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, April 19, 2011, 4:00-5:30pm
House 19 Deans Circle, UOG



(X) Evelyn Duenas, Chairperson	(X) Carla Torres (GSAT)
(X) Lou Mesa, Vice-Chairperson	() Dawn Maka (CILG)
(X) Lisa Ogo, Secretary	() Roseanne Ada (DISID)
(X) Josephine Cortez, Member At Large	(X) Marie Libria (GDDC)
(X) Linda Leon Guerrero	(X) Michelle Cruz (GLSC)
() Bill Fuppul	(X) Christine Rosario (GDOE)
() Noel Lazaga	(X) Greg Calvo (AHRD/ WIA)
() Haiki Lazaga	(X) Albert San Agustin(DVR)
() Tavita Faasualmalie	

MINUTES

I. Call to Order / Introductions/ Sign-in

Evelyn Duenas called the meeting to order at 4:17pm. Sign in Sheets were passed around followed by a brief introduction.

II. Review & Approval of Minutes

Reviewed the minutes for January 18, 2011. Lisa Ogo motioned to approve the minutes and seconded by Michelle Cruz. Minutes approved by acclamation.

III. Conference/Fair Debrief Plan for next year

Carla announced that the Tri-agency met with the GSAT Advisory Council and staff members to debrief on the conference and fair. Notes were compiled and released to the committee. The committee given an opportunity to add suggestions or comments to be documented and considered in planning for next year's annual AT Conference and Fair.

Greg Calvo apologized that the DOL's presentation didn't go as well. He did what he could do to convey expectations to his colleagues. He stated that the Job Accommodations Network (JAN) is used but has not been pushed towards the staff, and it was more directed to the employers.

Carla pointed out that the Conference/ Fair Committee were willing to do the presentation and DOL could focus on their website and services. When Fran was asked about JAN, she responded that it was fine, but stood up there and said she's never seen it. Greg Calvo said they were going through it together, but they don't really see him do it within the intake, it's more of what is done with the employers.

Carla mentioned the dates for next year should not coincide with other activities, including Special Olympics, Children's Health and Fitness Fair with Headstart, and Chamorro month



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activities. In this regard, she suggested to identify dates, book the venue and send out a save the date ASAP for next year.

IV. Photo of Group to Update Website

Took a group picture for GSAT's website, as many missed the last meeting.

V. Recruit New Members

According to Lisa Ogo, Super-friend's Access Radio had announced the search for members. Carla stated that the council is looking for well rounded representation of all disability types. What was identified in the last meeting was the deaf and hard of hearing, speech and communication ADD/ADHD, Emotional Disability, Learning Disability, Down syndrome, Autism. Carla suggested a parent who has a child in the school system and uses AT.

Maria Libria inquired about the minimum number of people for the council. Carla responded that there is a minimum and GSAT has met all the minimum requirements. There is no maximum. When AT is purchased GSAT should be cognizant of all the needs and the more general representation the better to meet its mission. Minimum requirement is 11 and 6 agencies are all represented.

VI. Talking Tactile Graphics Field Test

Carla asked the council to help recruit people to test the Talking Tactile Graphics/ Smart Pen prototypes. She had talked about this awhile ago after coming back from the CSUN International Conference and Disability in San Diego. She added that a company is producing talking tactile graphics. One can feel them and can read them in Braille and with the use of a smart pen, can tap on it and gain auditory access to information. It is created for people who have vision impairments, print disabilities, and those who can't access print due to learning disabilities such as dyslexia. Carla had signed up to be a field tester, trying to get 25 people to explore this technology and fill out an online survey. Device was demonstrated to Lisa Ogo. The idea is that the company will produce talking tactile graphics, so that teachers could then send in their materials and they'll produce this for the students. When it comes to print access and trying to get information off of print, there are different types of technologies and mechanisms to provide alternate formats. However, when it comes to graphics, maps, diagrams, charts, it's not so easy to translate it into accessible format. All the information cannot be translated into Braille so nicely, so the idea is to make the graphics talk, so people who need to process the information auditorily could do that. Carla explained that the talking tactile pen is just a prototype and includes four different graphics. She is requesting for volunteers to tryout and afterwards fills out an online survey. There are 11 people signed up in the next 2 weeks and a lot of them from the new vision group. She added that she is trying to get high school students with learning disabilities that would benefit from such technology.



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Greg Calvo suggested that GSAT do a demonstration or have some of the consumers in the various programs that have identified a disability participate. Carla responded that it is possible, but prefer they come to the office so if they require a screen reader to have access to the computer, then it will be set up for them here. Lisa had done the test and filled out the online survey, said the experience was great but there is always room for improvement. Subsequently, she needed to familiarize herself with it. Carla stated that the company is hoping to get the most feedback before marketing and approving the technology.

VII. Quarterly updates on GSAT

See attached report.

Discussions:

Carla and staff from the Pacific Islands Microcredit Institute/Small Business Development Center had met with DISID Director, Ben Servino to discuss creating an MOU for there was nothing formal in fronting the loans for DVR. This is being done to help DISID/DVR with timeliness. Carla mentioned that Ben was for that but added that he wants to fix the GSA procurement issue within GovGuam so money wouldn't be funded like this. And that they should have an IPE for self employment and provide the funding on their own in a timely manner.

Although there were only 80 participants in the conference feedback, a total of 147 signed in. Carla mentioned it didn't hit target of employers that was anticipated, and had expected that since there were no feedback sent out by the rotary, the chamber, GHRA. About 600-700 surveys, trying to figure out what the needs is regarding employment. Unfortunately they were not brought back.

Nikki and Carla will be presenting at the Rotary in two weeks, and next will be the chamber to get the message out to them and to continue public awareness and the outreach in that regard.

VIII. The Festival of International Conference on Caregiving Disability Aging and Technology (FICCDAT)

Carla announced that the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA), which is GSAT's technical assistance group for the AT Grant, will be having their conference as part of FICCDAT. Most sessions that she'll be attending are from RESNA, but will have access to the caregiving, disability, and technology conferences as well. It will be taking place in Toronto, Canada on June 3-8.

IX. Open Discussion

Lou Mesa asked if anyone knows what happened to the scheduled Guam Regional Transit Authority (GRTA) board meeting yesterday that didn't occur. Evelyn stated they have issues meeting quorum requirements because GRTA's board does not have enough members. Lou



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suggested that they should've put a notice on the door and put a notice on the bus because there were also riders to attend the meeting.

Lou announced that public hearings for provide feedback on the VR state plan are coming up. Albert San Agustin stated that they will have a presentation of the current VR state plan and discussion hoping to get some feedback on how people feel about it. He added that DVR and SRC have put together a community needs assessment on May 9 to determine gaps in services for people with disabilities, unmet needs. Hoping to get the different organizations that provides services and GSAT is on the list. DVR will also send out individual surveys. They want feedback from various services providers and consumers. Carla inquired about the intent of the findings. Albert responded that it is to prioritize and improve services.

DDC has a work session on the 29th from 8-2pm at the Hilton on developing the state plan. Public input starts in June. General Membership meeting on May 11, 2011 at the Hilton from 11-2:00PM. The speakers are from the Mental Health talking about direct support welfare program, usually called PCA and GHURA. Event will likewise appear in the newspaper.

Greg announced the May 6 Job Fair at the University of Guam from 9-4 with basic services such as sign language and 10 volunteers from AmeriCorp.

Carla shared the Small Business Development Center purchased \$8-9,000 worth of AT for their computer center to increase its accessibility. Clients have access to a screen reader/magnifier, refreshable Braille display, track ball mouse, and switch access. Lee Cruz was brought to tears as she felt highly respected and knows what this increased access means for individuals with print disabilities, especially the Randolph Shepherd Act vendors who will be starting up soon.

GSAT helped put the equipment list together but SBDC had the money. Denise Mendiola, from SBDC is also the director for Pacific Island Microcredit Institute (Community-based organization for the 2 GSAT's Loan Programs: GOAL-AT and GGT). She sits on the loan review committee and knows about the community's needs for AT and access to services.

X. Next Meeting for GSAT

Next meeting will be on July 19

XI. Meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.