

University of Guam CEDDERS
Guam System for Assistive Technology
Advisory Council



General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, October 16, 2012, 3:30-5:00pm
House 19 Deans Circle, UOG



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|--|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (X) Lou Mesa, Chairperson | (X) Evelyn Duenas | (X) Carla Torres (GSAT) |
| (X) Josephine Cortez, Vice-Chairperson | () Tavita Faasuumalie | (X) Michelle Cruz (GLSC) |
| (X) Barbara Johnson, Secretary | () Steve Fuppul | () Dawn Maka (GCIL) |
| () Hikie Lazaga, Member At Large | (X) Cecilia Cruz | (X) Naomi Webster (ASL Interpreter) |
| () Noel Lazaga, Member At Large | (X) Vedalema Valencia | (X) Rosanne Ada (GDCC) |
| (X) Lisa Ogo | () Elisa Cruz | (X) Evelyn Manibusan (DVR/ DISID) |
| () Roy Rosario | (X) Bill Fuppul | () Marie M. Babauta (GDOE) |
| | | () ? (AHRD/ WIA) |

Minutes of the Meeting

I. Call to Order / Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 3:35PM followed by introduction of members.

II. Review & Approval of Minutes

The Council reviewed the minutes from July 10, 2012 meeting and approved by acclamation.

III. Elections New FY 2012-2013

By-laws reviewed and members eligible to vote identified: Evelyn, Lou, Josephine Cortez, Hikie, Noel, Barbara, Roy, Bill, Ben, Marie, Michelle, Rosanne, and Carla. It was clarified that all officers including members-at-large should be consumers. Lee said that she is scheduled to go off-island, her absence is indefinite, and it would not be wise to nominate her. Voting by show of hands, approved by acclamation. Vice Chairperson automatically assumes role of Chairperson. Josie accept role as Chairperson.

Nominations for Vice Chairperson were as follows:

Lisa Ogo, nominates Lou - Declines, stating that she would like to give other consumers the opportunity
Bill Fuppul, nominates Lisa Ogo – Accepted; Lee Cruz, withdraws nomination; Lou Mesa nominates
Vedalema Valencia – Accepted; Lee Cruz moves to close, seconded by Evelyn Duenas

Elections were opened for the Vice Chairperson position. Results were as follows.

Lisa Ogo: 7 Vedalema Valencia: 5

Nominations for Secretary were as follows:

Vedalema Valencia, nominates self, Michelle Nicole Cruz seconded the motion; Bill Fuppul nominates
Barbara Johnson- Declines, stating that she has plans to move off-island; Rosanne Ada nominates Bill
Fuppul – Declines; Lisa Ogo moves to close, Evelyn Duenas seconded the motion

Elections were opened for the Secretary position. Results were as follows.

Vedalema Valencia: voted by acclamation

Nominations for Members-at-Large were as follows:

Lee Cruz nominates Bill Fuppul, seconded by Evelyn Duenas-Accepted

Evelyn nominates herself, Lou seconds the nomination - Accepted

Rosanne Ada nominates Barbara Johnson - Accepted

Rosanne Ada, nominates Lou- Accepted

Evelyn motions to close, seconded by Vedalema Valencia

Carla instructed the Council to vote for 3 of the four nominees. Lou suggested a paper vote. The vote tallies were as follows: Bill Fuppul-9; Evelyn Duenas-8; Barbara Johnson-6; Lou Mesa-10

The final results of the elections were as follows

Vice-Chairperson: Lisa Ogo

Secretary: Vedalema Valencia

Members-at-Large: Lou Mesa, Bill Fuppul, and Evelyn Duenas

IV. New Business

A. Website Revamp: Stakeholders input

Carla requested the Council's input on the GSAT website's revamp. She adds that it is very text heavy, has outdated color blocking, and takes a lot of clicks to get to where you want to go. Carla met with the web designer to discuss these issues. Lee Cruz suggested (1) to make a reader available - whether a person has a screen reader or not , pre-downloadable, (2) have an rss feed - that way when we visit the website , we see new stuff and (3) do personal stories, like videos.

Ideas for the revamp;

- Rotating banner to display current events, different activities
- Keep style sheets on and off
- Option of increasing/decreasing font size
- Model GSAT's website after California AT Website
- Do quick links on the side
- Repetitiveness should be mainly on the top and bottom of the page
- Flash
- Social Media Networking (hesitation on CEDDERS administration)
- Include links to resources like iBlink Radio, that provides audio tutorials on learning technology
- Skype - could not be possible through GSAT's website
- Blog section – Council Members can rotate in monitoring the blog

Carla states that after the site map is received and GSAT staff goes through initial review of the design template, she will email the Council before agreeing to anything. Suggestions can be emailed to her. Carla shared that she gets inquiries from New York, the middle east, and recently got a letter from a professor in South Korea , Rehab Science College AT Special Ed College. She said 5 professors are coming out in December and there are 8 students in the Rehab Science Programs and they ask if they can come to GSAT. They found us through our website so we want to keep our website current and state of the art.

B. Outreach Committee 1st Meeting

Scheduled for Nov. 13, Tuesday 3-4:30PM. Carla states that in July an Outreach Committee was established to fundraise for items that GSAT isn't able to fund or looking for things in the community that can be changed or improved. Barbara's suggested to tackle the parks, look at getting swings that accommodate wheelchairs. Carla added that we could discuss with parks and recreation or Department of Public Works (DPW), and see if they have funding. Rosanne Ada said that recreation is not a part of the 5 year state plan at this time with GDDC. Carla states that it is a part of our AT Grant

C. \$1.3 Million Transit Grant Awarded

Carla said that during the July meeting Ben Servino had shared that they put in an application. Evelyn Manibusan (proxy for Ben) confirmed that it has been awarded. The grant will establish a one click call center, which will be across JFK at the old Goodwill. Ben will need to share more about this at the next meeting. Evelyn uncertain of details.

D. Distribution on Council calendars

Calendars have been distributed. Conference and Fair dates are identified. Carla requested that members of the Council who belong to other organizations, try to avoid scheduling other events on March 9 (AT fair) and March 23 (AT conference). Carla added that GSAT is on Micronesia Mall's Schedule for March 9. Last meeting, Lisa requested to move the General membership meeting in light of the New Vision wave. Carla said GSAT meeting dates are schedule a year in advanced to avoid any schedule conflicts and we won't be able to make the change now. Lee attended a meeting where Ben was trying to encourage everybody, as soon as they know their calendar, to give it to him, to put on his website. Lee is requesting calendar to be brailled in contracted Braille.

E. Newsletters (AT stories)

The iLina'lata newsletter, came out in September with an article about the Voter's AT Toolkit that was presented to the Election Commission and various precincts- a collaborated effort with the Guam Legal Services Corporation Disability Law Center. Also in the issue, an article from Lee Cruz entitled "Accessibility is a Journey." Also featured, Marie Bontogon wins second place in Bookshare Contest, international division, for her submission. Carla said we anticipate a January submission on Guam Renal Care's use of GSAT Garaventa Stairtrac. She shares that they have been without an elevator for a month now and have been carrying their patients in the dialysis center up and down stairs. GSAT lent them the Stairtrac, which will help to transport individuals in wheelchairs up and down stairs. The loan of this device is expected to be 2-3 months.

V. Old Business

A. July Director's Meeting in DC

In light of recent talks of sequestration, the AT program needs to think about sustainability. AT assessments and AT device training for a fee for service could generate funds for the program. There is lobbying going on to increase funding for AT programs but we don't know how this will pan out. We are funded by the AT act of 1998 which has been up for re-authorization for the last 3 years. But so has some more pressing legislation like the Workforce Investment Act, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the Elementary Secondary Education Act. When you look at priority on the hill, AT is at the bottom, and these other big Acts are taking precedence. Guam doesn't stand a chance to get increase funding until states like Montana reach a certain funding level, and that's nature of formulating the grants.

B. Status of AT demo center (move to House 20)

No progress to report on making house #20 accessible. The engineer from University has come, they did their assessments, we've gotten quotations, and whatever else they need, but we're still waiting. Maybe by January we'll have a different report.

VI. Reports

A. Coordinator's Report: Update on GSAT core activities

Coordinator's Report attached

B. 2013 Conference/Fair Committee Report

2013 Conference and Fair Report attached. 3rd committee meeting will be on November 7.

VII. Open Discussion/ Announcements

Evelyn Manibusan announced the activities throughout the month of October for the National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Lee announced that she will be training to become a certified Braille transcriptionist. And, Jerard Cruz is now in the 2nd month of training to become a certified orientation mobility instructor. Both supported by Vocational Rehabilitation. Carla adds there are 7 Guam teachers going through the Special Ed. Masters Program called the Pacific VIP Project. It is a 4 year program for teachers to earn dual certification to teach students with visual impairment and in orientation and mobility. Project is regional and there are scholars from the other Pacific entities as well. SINA 's White Cane safety day race is on October 27 starts at 7AM, for any information , call Lyn Tydingco at 686-1936 or Andrew at 929-9990. Lisa Ogo announced that the Power walk is on November 17. October 15 is the Proclamation signing for white cane safety day. Lee said that today New Vision has their wave at ITC, generally to promote the white cane as a symbol of independence for people who are blind. Lee Cruz points out that New Vision had an election on JULY 29, and she is no longer a board member. There are new set of board members, new set of officers. New vision can be reached at newvisionguam@gmail.com. Lou informs the Council that a special needs planning on state and trust occurred on October 13. April is Autism Awareness month and ACT's Autism Fair is planned for April 13. Lou stepped down as Chairperson to give opportunities to other parents. ACT can be contacted at 687-ACT1 (President, Evelyn Claros) and 487-1987 (Lou), email: autismcommunitytogether@gmail.com. October is "Family violence Awareness month" with a wave on the roadside, across Skinners Plaza on October 31, 4: 30pm-5:30pm. Vedalema Valencia shared that she has started a non-profit organization for individuals with learning disabilities, Guam's Unborn Spirit. They will be officially chartered next month with a mission to provide services and training to prepare students for the workforce. Vedalema can be contacted at 777-8573 or by email at guamsus@gmail.com.

Adjournment

Val made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:37pm. Approved by acclamation.

Next meeting: January 15, 2013