

Greeley Commission on Disability meeting 2/2/21 minutes

The chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 am

By general consensus it was agreed that Sue would take minutes

Present were:

Doug Peters

Sue Zamora

David Delgado

Patrick Kelly

Phil Brewer

Olivia Cytrynowicz

City Liaison, Deana Lemos-Garcia, was unable to attend due to a conflict)

The Guest Speaker for the meeting was Colorado House District 50 Rep. Mary Young. Mary discussed her credentials and background. She has spent her life involved with people and children with special needs. She has a Bachelors, Masters and PhD in Psychology. She has taught special needs children many on the Autism Spectrum.

Mary's sister-in-law was also a motivator for her. Mary and her husband became her sister-in-law's guardian and soon after that her sister-in-law was placed in twenty foster home in one year;

Mary answered questions we had submitted to her

We asked, what did she feel was most important.

Mary stated that in 2019 the Governor commissioned a Behavioral Health task force. One the prominent problems the task force found were barriers to service and inequity. Mary sponsored a bill creating a system for equal access last session before the session was ended due to COVID. Mary is hoping to help individuals with co-occurring disabilities

She is also hoping to be part of legislation which addresses Crisis Training for responders for responding to people with challenges

There are other bills which Mary will be addressing

Our second question dealt with re-training of disabled individuals Mary

Mary stated there is not adequate training. She did sponsor a bill addressing this last session and plans to again. There are some inadequate training programs in place. Mary encourage interested persons to reach out to her at Repmmcyoung@gmail.com (this email address may also be used to request Mary's newsletter

Mary stated the legislative work on COVID is attempting to address access needs

Mary stated there are plans for extended year learning especially for students with IEP's and if a parent feels that if the IEP is not being implemented parents shouldn't hesitate to be an advocate

David asked about the distribution of CARE act moneys. Mary stated that given the constraints of the CO constitution she feels it has gone pretty well

Sue asked about vaccine roll-out especially for individuals with health conditions which make them increasingly vulnerable. Mary stated these individuals will be prioritized and will be contacted by their physicians, with either a Feb. 8 or Mar. 5 roll out

The commission thanked Mary for her time

Old Business

Resource List

David finishing up and will send his to Doug

Olivia heard some changes back from some of the agencies. She will get this information to Doug

Patrick, Olivia and Phi will do Darvel's

Olivia will contact Deana to get her information on the Commission website

Supporting people during COVID

David has access (via Connections for Independent Living) to computers for people with disabilities if they have need due to the pandemic

David is the expert on navigating the SSSI or SSDI applications and the SS system and questions

We discussed making a video concerning COVID. We plan to have a format of statements of 15-20 second each concerning prevention, vaccination and the reason we're on the Commission

New Business

We will continue to work on elevator speech. Please email each other ideas

Doug suggested we all consider goals, and ADA compliance in our community

We have no speaker scheduled for March. Patrick is going to follow up with a couple of ideas which he has.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am