

Altoona 06/14/2016 CAC Meeting Minutes

Minutes of CAC Meeting 6/14/2016

Attendees

Beth Becher	Celia Fagnani	Lisa Modico
Josie Dively	Mark Harshberger	Janice Werfel
Jeanne Danison	Julie Patowsky	Joyce Gallagher,
Mary Anne Cowfer	Endy Reindl	Interpreter
Robert Cowfer	Megan Farzati	Maria Brandt
Joe Fagnani	Shasta Dreese	Susan Mayes

Julie Patowsky opened the meeting and introduced the presenters.

Jumpstart Presentation – Mark Harshberger

- Three completed this year (Centre, Lycoming and Blair counties)
- For seniors 55 and older that have vision loss
- Goal: client's become more self-sufficient and independent
- Socialization is an added benefit of the Jumpstart Program
- Includes Rehabilitation Teaching, Orientation/Mobility training and discussion groups (Eye Doctors, Access to Technology teachers and health professionals)

Question was asked if there is a similar program for younger people. Presenter explained that there is not right now but it is being discussed. Presenter also explained that there are summer camps for people in the younger age group.

Assistive Technology Presentation – Megan Farzati & Shasta Dreese

- There are three categories for Assistive Technology – Low, Medium and High
- Low tech – items in this category require little to no training (e.g.: pencil grip)
- Mid tech – items in this category require some training and some cost (e.g.: voice recorder)
- Hi tech – items in this category require training, higher cost and usually some maintenance (e.g.: smart pen)
- Presenter explained some AT equipment used in different categories of disability, including Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Fine Motor Skills disability, Low Vision disability and Learning disabilities
- Presenters demonstrated many of the items available
- Presenters listed local resources that help with AT

- United Cerebral Palsy of Central PA
- Tri-county Patriots for Independent Living
- Lending Library (Joe Flaherty @ www.tripil.com)
- PA Assistive Technology Foundation offers loans to help pay for expensive equipment

Mary Ann Cowfer offered welcome to guests and introductions were made

Minutes from last meeting were accepted and approved

MaryAnne spoke of IOS devices that describe pictures on social media to visually impaired individuals to add to the Assistive Technology information.

Maria Brandt – asked if Anne and Tressella usually come to the meetings. It was explained that Anne was on vacation and Tressella was in training in Harrisburg.

Mary Ann Cowfer would like more information for the next meeting on the Governor signing Employment First and information about training sessions for WIOA.

Cindy Mayes noted that it is very difficult for folks from Centre County to attend the meetings and suggested that a survey might be a good way to get input from these clients. It was agreed to discuss this suggestion at the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn was made by Maria Brandt and seconded by Joe Fagnani

CAC meetings for 2016: March 8, June 14, September 13 and December 13