

Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

January 23, 2019

3 p.m. – 4 p.m.

HGAC Seminar Theater

- I. Introductions and New Member updates
- II. Review/Approval of Minutes from 7/25/18 Meeting
- III. Update on OVR services
 - PETS services
 - Budget update
 - Staff update
 - Changes to policies
- IV. CAC Meetings for 2019:
 - All start at 3 pm and will be scheduled for days we have OVR staff meetings.
 - April 24, 2019
 - July 24, 2019
 - October 23, 2019

Next CAC Meeting: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 from 3 p.m. – 4 p.m. in the HGAC Seminar Theater

*****CAC Meeting information can be viewed on the PA Rehabilitation Council (PaRC) website at <http://www.parac.org/CAC/index.html>***

MINUTES FROM 7/25/18 MEETING OF JOHNSTOWN DISTRICT OFFICE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Attendance: Josh Yoder, Jeff Dick, Tina Pelesky, Marjorie Duranko

Introductions

Introductions were made. Diane Custer was introduced as the new CT-3 in the Johnstown OVR.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the 1/17/18 meeting were reviewed. Jeff Dick made a motion to approve them and Tina Pelesky seconded the motion. Minutes from 1/17/18 were approved as submitted. It was noted that the April meeting had been cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.

CAC Membership Drive

Members were asked to submit names for the membership drive. Margie informed members that they can send multiple names of anyone involved with veterans or employment. Margie noted that Bridget Kirsch emailed her today that she would like to have Sharon Clapper invited. Tina indicated that she is on the Southern Alleghenies board with Sharon. A Letter will be mailed to Sharon Clapper inviting her to join the committee. Diane Custer's email address was provided to members to include when submitting names.

Update on OVR Services

Staff Update--OVR has had quite a few retirements and resignations. There are now eight open positions for Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors. OVR will be hiring two people for the Clerk Typist 2 position. The interviews for the positions are set up for the week of 7/30/18. It was noted that there are three positions open for Clerk Typist 2, but only two are permitted to be filled. The new ADA has been approved and is scheduled to start on 8/25/18. A VRC was also promoted to Vocational Rehabilitation Supervisor position which had been vacant for two years.

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Tina inquired about OVR staffing at the CareerLink. It was noted that when we are at full complement, we will have someone from OVR at the CareerLink every day. It was also noted that potential customers of OVR are to be directed to contact the CareerLink if they have questions or problems completing the online pre-application.

Budget Update--OVR started new budget 7/1/18.

Changes to Policies—OVR now has new supported employment. It is the new job coaching, and it is designed to be better at serving people who may only need job mentoring or intermittent help.

Margie informed the committee that she has been tracking the number of referrals coming into OVR geographically and is considering merging two territories in Westmoreland County that are not receiving many referrals. This would enable the possibility of creating another Business Services Representative position as it is very difficult for one BSR to serve four counties. This has not been proposed to staff yet.

Committee Member Updates

Tina shared a flyer with everyone promoting a military finance workshop on August 8, 2018. It is for veterans and active military families. It is free of charge. Margie informed Tina that we would scan the flyer and send it out to our staff to share and post it on our veterans' board. It will also be sent to the other surrounding District Offices. Fifty people need to sign up in order to hold the workshop. Tina said that Adam Camuso, BSR, is welcome to set up a table at the workshop if he would like to.

Josh Yoder shared that they are very busy at CamTran. They are working on a route restructuring project beginning with rural fixed routes which is expected to take 12-18 months. The urban side of things will then be restructured. The newly formed service area for the Reserve a Ride Service is all of Cambria county, all of Blair County, and they will go in to Windber in Somerset County. They no longer will go to Indiana County or Westmoreland County. Josh inquired whether there

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was any help available from OVR for people who need to get to work using the bus. Margie explained that they need to be an OVR customer for OVR to pay for a bus pass, and then it is limited. CamTran also has three major facility projects underway. Ebensburg facility is being remodeled. The Johnstown Inclined Plane design for the rehab project is being worked on. The design should be done by Spring 2019. A solar panel project just started at the Woodvale facility.

Jeff Dick shared that the CareerLink will be relocating to the Johnstown Library. Their space will be cut in half, but they are looking at two affiliate sites. One is in place already; that is the Goodwill Center in Moxham. They are also trying to find a location in Ebensburg. There will be a partner room in the Goodwill location that can be reserved to use. The middle of September is the goal for the Johnstown Library site to open. They will be located on the first floor of the library. Regarding veterans, the representative that went out and worked with employers retired. CareerLink is in the process of hiring for that position. They have made the offer and are just waiting for HR.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Next CAC Meeting – Wednesday, October 24, 2018, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the HGAC Seminar Theater. April 18, 2018; 3 p.m. – 4 p.m. in the HGAC Seminar Theater.

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