

Friends of NCBDDD

Minutes of Executive Committee Call: February 19, 2014

In Attendance: Adriane Griffen, Craig Mason, Sarah Yates, Angela Blackwell, Barbara Kornblau, Erica Reott (filing in for Melody Stevens), Emil Wigode, Ursula Phoenix Weir (CDC representative), Annie Acosta, Mary Andrus, Sara Struwe, Roberta Carlin, Joe Isaacs

Absent: Gaylon Morris, Jeff Cohen, Pat Johnson

Convene: 2:00pm

Welcome and Intros: Adriane Griffen

- Adriane will take minutes as Pat will not be at today's virtual meeting.

Update from NCBDDD: Melody Stevens

- Melody Steven summarized a draft agenda for an in person meeting of the EC at NCBDDD. March 31 was discussed as a possible date. More details will follow. The meeting will only be in person and not be recorded or available for remote participants.
- The Center is looking into the possibility to offset travel expenses for EC members.

Update from Friends of NCBDDD Chair: Adriane Griffen

- Adriane said she had no specifics yet to share regarding the agenda for the first in-person meeting of the year. She is working with NCBDDD staff on the format of the meeting and topic areas to address in more detail. The concept of looking at common issues that all Friends share will be discussed.
- The Executive Committee discussed that sharing stories could be guided by a general framework and that more focus was needed on how to best document and quantify the grant return on investment.

Update from Friends of NCBDDD Advocacy Coalition: Annie Acosta

- Annie Acosta mentioned drafting legislative educational sheets for each of the divisions and conducting preliminary outreach to set up a Friends of NCBDDD with the Office of Management and Budget.
- The Advocacy Coalition is hosting a meeting on March 12 to get an update on the President's Budget from Coleen Boyle and then to have a strategy session.

Committee Reports: Member/Communications Committee:

- Sarah Yates reported that was updating the member directory and had received two additional member requests. A survey is now out for members to update their contact information on the member directory.

New Business: Soliciting Stories of Budget Cuts Impact

- Emil reported on ideas on framing the story of cuts to the Birth Defects Research Centers and activities that will no longer take place in UT and TX as a result.
- There was a discussion amongst members on what type of stories to collect and how to collect the information. It was decided that a survey would not be effective and that stories needed to be solicited from talking directly to the program leads and getting details and context.
- Adriane said she would include this item for next month, as the meeting was over time.

Next Meeting: March 19, 2pm ET

Adjourn: 3:10pm