# Minutes of KATS Network Advisory Council Meeting

September 22, 2017  
Carl D. Perkins Training and Vocational Center  
Thelma, KY

## Welcome & Introductions

The council meeting was called to order at 9:49 am by Rick Boggess, Chair.

### Advisory Council Members

Debra Bauder, Rick Boggess, Karen Coulter, David Dennis, Rowena Holloway,

Tina Jackson, Lee Muncy, Duke Petit, Carol Weber

### KATS Network Coordinating Center and ATRC Staff

Jimmy Brown, Sheila Levy, Elizabeth Thompson; Christina Espinoza-Bard;

Racheal Johnson; Peggy Farmer, Lisa Staub; Jana Billingsley, Cindy Huston

### Advisory Council Members not in attendance

Nate Bolton, Jennifer Hicks, Patrick Murphy, Andre Ryssemus, Todd Stephens,

Tishana Wokocha

### Others in attendance

Betty Boggess, Mark Jackson, Whitney Hayse

## Approval of Minutes from past meeting (s)

Rick called the next order of business; approving the June 9, 2017 council minutes that were e-mailed to members.

Motion made to accept the minutes as presented, no corrections; second received; all in favor.

## Solicitation & Voting for FFY 2018 – Jimmy Brown

### Updates on Council Member Appointments

Each year the council members elect new co-chairs, one to represent the agency side and one to represent individuals

* Current co-chairs are Carol (agency) and Rick (individual)
* Duties for Co-chairs were reviewed
* Jimmy called for volunteers to serve, starting in December 2017
  + Deb Bauder volunteered to represent the individual side
  + Lee Muncy volunteered to represent the agency side
* Jimmy called for council members to vote on new co-chairs
  + Council voted. All in favor. None opposed

## Updates from ATRCs:

### Enabling Technologies (enTECH)-Jimmy

* See submitted report, page 24 in today’s meeting book
* Representative not in attendance

### HDI-CATS-Christina

* Access to new building is expected October 12th
* Arrangements to be made to transfer in equipment from other sites
* Location is in the Malibu Heights shopping center;
* Address is 2358 Nicholasville Rd., Ste. 175, Lexington, KY
* Independence Place will also be housed there
* Outstanding equipment loans from BTC have been either forgiven or recovered. There are 20-30 others to be contacted

### Redwood –Peggy

* Provided additional details from the Dalton Foundation visit in April
* Dynavox training
* Lisa provided training on new equipment, such as the Light Aide, Beamz and Talk to Me 100
* TAPP cabinet demonstration by Lisa
* Reutilizations include a Rifton Shower Chair/Toilet Chair and a Captel phone
* 1st Steps Point of Entry presentation at Campbell County schools

### Western KY AT Center – Cindy

* Low Vision Fair conducted in April. Kudos to Rick Boggess for helping educate low vision people in the area
* WHAS launched a YouTube video featuring WKATC
* Hosted a Home Modifications Workshop with 25 participants
* Staff participated in UbiDuo training and it is available at WKATC
* Exhibited in Louisville at the Early Childhood Institute, with over 1,200 providers
* Early Intervention training scheduled on 10/25
* Hosting a Transition workshop
* Participating in a 3-year pilot program funded by Crusade for Children.
  + WKATC is the only facility in KY that has Milo, the new robot
  + Cost about $18,000 for the 3-year pilot

### Carl D. Perkins Center – Racheal

* TAPP cabinet has been utilized
* Experienced a lady using AT to talk to her niece, for the first time in years
* Racheal represented at the Project CASE Asset Development Summit
* Transportation Department is still under staffed and unable to help with transports
* CARAT room is cleared out, increased storage space
* Students still not able to help with cleaning etc. hoping when weather changes they may resume
* Struggling with First Steps and how to bill for services
* Some Project CARAT items have been moved or removed by people ‘helping themselves’ at the center when Rachel is out

### Discussion Notes:

Council Members were provided a question and answer time after viewing a demonstration on the use of the robots:

* Milo the Robot, by Cindy and Jana
* Double Telepresence Robot by Carol and Racheal, with Ryan Creech providing the remote feature
* Costs, uses, pros and cons were discussed

Cindy, Lee and others suggested ways to address issues with people understanding which items belong to Project CARAT.

## Coordinating Center Updates- Jimmy

### SHARP (Statewide Hearing Aid Assistance & Reuse Program) –Jimmy

* Program is coming the end in about 3 months
* Just over $5200 in funds remaining, with no new funding
* Lions Club was not receptive to taking over the program, as they wanted to restrict areas to serve
* We will continue collecting used hearing aids, doing repairs and purchasing refurbished hearing aids with those credits
* Reviewed statistics from report on page 30 of the meeting book
* 90 of 120 counties in KY have been served so far
* We believe we have now surpassed Pennsylvania in Hear Now application activity
  + KY was 6th in the nation when we started

### RampUP KY Project

* The Reeves Foundation awarded 7 grants nationwide
* Our Finance office is finishing up with vendors then we can purchase ramps
* Refer to page 32 of the meeting book for a list of ramps and locations

### Project CARAT –Sheila

* Gould’s made a sizable donation of items.
* Accenture, a vendor for Texas Health & Human Services Commission, contacted Project CARAT and scheduled a meeting to discuss KY’s ‘successful’ program
* KY’s Medicaid has not been responsive to requests for support/funding for Project CARAT. Texas offered to help by using their connections.
* KAARN Conference-Sheila connected with the Paralyzed Veterans of America. Once PVA moves to Jeffersonville, IN from New Albany discussions will occur concerning donations and working with those consumers to develop some transportation of donations.
* Over $700,000 dollars worth of equipment has been given out

### KATS Coordinating Center, Data round-up

* We are coming up on the end of our Federal Fiscal year
* December meeting will be full data before submitting to council for approval and report.
* Spreadsheet covering 3rd quarter reviewed.
* Annual report to Congress reviewed
  + Cost savings nationally is $27,000,000
  + Reuse program covers the cost of the Tech Act.
* Attention on reuse due to recent floods, hurricanes, earthquakes,
* etc. and the replacement costs for that AT.
* State plan expires at the end of the month but has been extended.

### Discussion Notes:

Lee suggested Project Sharp can be resurrected later on, if situation changes.

RampUp Project discussions included the expected application processes. Elizabeth shared concerns that consumers borrowing a ramp not get ‘bumped off’ a permanent ramp waiting list and how can we prevent that occurrence.

Rick and Lee made several suggestions, including ‘tagging’ the ramps as property of the program by engraving or other.

## BREAK 10:49…called by Rick

### P & A- Whitney

## KATLC-Row

* New members

## OVR -Carol

* Cabinet reorganization before merger of OVR and OFB
* Integrated OFB/OVR meetings continue to work on forms, policy and procedure, etc
* Carol is working with Jimmy to address training for staff (no AT conference planned).
  + Webinars, combination training, etc
  + Zoom is the on-line teleconferencing system. Webinar platform to be purchased.
  + Carol and Jimmy have first live webinar session of a planned series, scheduled on 10/6/17, “Intro to Accessibility”.
* In position as ADA Coordinator- doing updates to Employee timesheets and handbook

## KCDHH- Row

* If proposed budget cut is 20 percent as expected, will lose personnel.
* Working on the Strategic plan, will meet with Heiner to discuss legislative plan.
* Row has a cabinet ready for HDI-CATS and will bring it to them when ready.

## Assistive Technology Demonstration of Equipment – Robots

### Double Telepresence Robot - Carol & Racheal

Ryan Creech participated from Corbin via robot. He explained the DTR everyday uses utilizing a 2-way video conferencing system. There is an app to download, works with Chrome, Firefox (not Edge). The system works with iPad and iPhones, not Android. Ryan shared you have to have an IPad to go with the robot.

Jimmy shared the ways the robot is used in different settings and case studies from company. He will share a video from the maker, demonstrating its uses.

Row asked how much it costs. Rachel said about $2,999.

Lisa S. asked about funding for schools to get the robot out to students on home bound. Lee stated the turf transition is an issue, such as transition from carpet to tile. The DTR ends up face down when it falls over (says, “help me, help me”)

Ryan said there are heavier duty robots that are more stable but they are more in the range of $15,000-$20,000.

Racheal asked about battery usage

### Milo the Robot – Lisa & Jana

Milo uses ‘Autism speech’, with a light up black and white screen and symbols. Consumers tend to make more eye contact with Milo. He also teaches them to calm down through counting and other methods. Facilitator on iPad is the actual ‘driver’ who facilitates interaction. He is $18,000 for 3 years.

Karen asked for additional information on what Milo shows on his screen.

### Discussion Notes:

Tina asked if people can type in during the October webinar. Carol stated, “Yes”.

Christina and Deb offered their experiences that Zoom is a strong platform for webinars

Rick inquired if OOS status has affected RT services.

## Announcements / New Business: NONE

## Open Discussion from the Council:

* Deb asked about the Open House for HDI-CATS.
* Deb wanted to compliment WKATC on the quality of topics and presenters conducting their trainings. Deb further inquired how her students could get on the Training Distribution list. Cindy said that if anyone wants on that list, to contact her.
* Karen offered to reach out to Tishana re: meeting materials. Jimmy concurred
* Rick mentioned a free app released by Microsoft a couple of months ago called Seeing AI. It has several reading function modes. One mode is used when you run your phone scanner over signs, it will read them in real time. Another was OCR mode, one that reads packaging codes such as UPC codes on packages.
* Rick shared IRAIA is a new app. It uses trained people who send you a receiver and glasses, with subscription services running between $80-$300 a month. The person connected at the other end will describe to you what is around you. It will not tell you when it is safe to cross street. One example, a man ran the Boston Marathon and used IRAIA who described what was going on around him.
* Deb asked about work through the printing house. Rick said they are doing lots with indoor navigation and an app called Nearby Explorer. Jimmy shared that OFB has started using the location navigators.
* Deb expressed concerns with funding due to the end of state plan. Jimmy responded.

## Tentative future council meeting date/s:

Location: McDowell Center

Date: December 15th, 2017

Time: 9:30 AM

## Adjournment:

David motioned to adjourn and Duke seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Racheal Johnson offered a tour of CDPTVC to council members after meeting adjournment.