

Louisiana Access to Justice Commission
Technology Committee
February 4, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Participants: Amanda Brown and Dona Renegar, Co-Chairs; Greg Landry, Jennifer Eagan, Austin Benton, Roxanne Newman

Staff liaisons: Monte Mollere and Linda Johnson

This virtual meeting was held via GoToMeeting and began with roll call of members and approval of last meeting's minutes. [19:08]

Last meeting a significant amount of work was done on the Learning Management System. Because this stage of development requires details and input from the legal services providers and most members cannot assist with this, this work will be moved to a small group. The full Committee will be kept up to date with their progress. To assist with this work, they plan to apply for an LSC Technology Initiative Grant and plan to meet later to begin work on this process.

Amanda provided an overview of the Justice for All (JFA) Initiative, awarded by the National Center for State Court a new grant initiative which also has a technology statewide component. She is hoping the group will be able to either be a source of what is happening in technology or identify other places that technology innovations are happening. The initiative requests grantees to conduct community research in search of remedies to provide a level of access to justice to everyone. A track for this procedure has been provided, beginning with an inventory assessment to see where things are at in the state. Next, based on the assessment findings, pursue strategic planning to address deficiencies and begin to make a difference in the services offered. Lastly, implementation of identified plans from step 2. Local partners are the Bar Foundation, Lagniappe Law Lab, and Louisiana Bar Association and a consultant, Tara Veazey. Advisory Committee Partners include Catholic Charities- Baton Rouge, The Family Court- Parish of East Baton Rouge, Louisiana United Way, NAACP, People Health, Southern University Law Center, among others, to get a broad view and perspectives from both legal and non-legal entities. The final phase is implementation, which is documenting best practices, seeking advice on how to deal with deficiencies and then build the work plans. A potential follow-up grant can provide the means to actually implement the work plans.

Amanda asked to use a portion of the meeting as a focus group for discussion of the technology component. Her basic question for discussion was: How well are we using technology across the JFA component to advance Access to Justice. [30:50]