

NCDA 2002 Winter Meeting, Washington, DC

**Technology Program and Policy Committee
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, January 24, 2002**

The meeting was chaired by Technology Program and Policy Committee Co-Chair Barbara Ross, Community Development Administrator, City of Denton, Texas.

Robyne Doten, Director of Systems Development and Evaluation Division in the Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) at HUD, provided the committee with an update on IDIS and DGMS. Robyne informed the committee that the development of DGMS is currently on hold, and that CPD has requested additional funding to enhance IDIS. Proposed improvements would streamline activity processing, create a robust reporting platform, enhance program income processing, and develop the capability to capture geographic changes to eligible formula entities under IDIS. Robyne stated that if CPD's funding request was granted, changes to IDIS would occur within six months from the receipt of funds.

Jeff Falcusan, NCDA Legislative Counsel and Staff for Technology, gave a briefing on the NCDA website. Jeff provided committee members with a computer-generated report containing usage statistics for the second half of 2001. Several committee members expressed concerns over the functionality of the *NCDAonline* forum and listserv. Jeff agreed to work with Jim Welfley to address these concerns.

The committee engaged in a lengthy discussion of *NCDAonline*'s yellow pages feature. Jeff informed the committee that only 3 advertisers were currently featured in the yellow pages. The committee discussed possible plans for addressing the shortage of advertisers, including eliminating the yellow pages section. A motion was made to give advertisers six months of free advertising. After six months, advertisers would then pay the regular monthly rate to keep their ads running. All rules regarding ad content would remain in place and would be enforced during the free trial period and beyond. This motion was approved and forwarded to the Board for consideration.