



COUNCIL ON
PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

1 WEST WILSON STREET,
ROOM 551
POST OFFICE BOX 2659
MADISON, WI 53701-2659
PHONE: 608-266-3118
WEBSITE: cpd.wisconsin.gov

Wisconsin Council on Physical Disabilities (CPD) Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Thursday April 23, 2019
8:30 AM to 12:30 PM

This meeting held virtually in accordance with Governor Evers' Executive Order #72 and Secretary Andrea Palm's Emergency Order #12: Safer at Home Order

APPROVED JULY 23, 2020.

Action Items and Motion Items

A. Action Items

- 1. Action Item:** Jackie Gordon to draft language to notify guest list from previous Dan Johnson Advocacy Award of the decision to postpone the Dan Johnson Advocacy Award for 2020 and provide to Council on Physical Disabilities (CPD) members for review and then to send.
- 2. Action Item:** Jason Ostrowski to reach out to previous members of the CPD Bylaws committee and invite new members to join Bylaws committee to review and update the Council on Physical Disabilities Bylaws.
- 3. Action Item:** Members discussed the updating of other materials in the Emergency Preparedness toolkit. Members will review the materials in the Emergency Preparedness toolkit and provide any additional edits, updates, or revisions at the July quarterly meeting during the Emergency Preparedness toolkit revision discussion.
- 4. Action Item:** DHS support staff will provide members with Emergency Preparedness toolkit tracking and budgets at the July 2020 Quarterly meeting.
- 5. Action Item:** CPD members asked to provide feedback for isolation facilities and considerations for people with physical disabilities. CPD members will provide DHS support staff feedback by April 24, 2020 for inclusion in recommendations.
- 6. Action Item:** Jason Ostrowski notified CPD members about a presentation hosted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Stakeholder Engagement conference call to address comments and concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Capacity for the call was limited to 200 participants. Jason Ostrowski will provide a link to the transcripts of the meeting when made available.

B. Motion Items

- 1. Motion Item:** A motion was made by Charles Vandenplas to approve the April 2020 quarterly meeting agenda. The motion was seconded by Roberto Escamilla II. Motion carried.
- 2. Motion Item:** A motion was made by Charles Vandenplas to approve the October 2019 quarterly meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Jason Ostrowski. Motion carried.
- 3. Motion Item:** A motion was made by Jackie Gordon to accept the nomination of Jason Ostrowski as Chair for the 2020 term. The motion was seconded by Charles Vandeplas. Motion carried.
- 4. Motion Item:** A motion was made by Jackie Gordon to accept the nomination of Ben Barrett as Vice Chair for the 2020 term. The motion was seconded by Charles Vandeplas. Motion carried.
- 5. Motion Item:** A motion was made by Jackie Gordon to postpone the Dan Johnson Advocacy Award and align it with the next Aging and Disability Resource Network conference. The motion was seconded by Jason Ostrowski. Motion carried.
- 6. Motion Item:** A motion was made by Charles Vandenplas to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Roberto Escamilla II. Motion carried.

C. Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions: Ben Barrett, Chairperson

Council members present (all via teleconference): Ben Barrett; Roberto Escamilla II; Karen Secor; Charles Vandenplas; Jason Ostrowski; Kathy Johnson; Jackie Gordon; Gabriel Schlieve; Jeff Fox; and Noah Hershkowitz.

Council members absent: Noah Roberts, Governor Appointee; and Ron Jansen.



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Liaisons present: Jodi , Office of the Commissioner of Insurance; Heather Bruemmer, Board on Aging and Long-Term Care; Taqwanya Smith, Department of Transportation; Eva Kubinski, Department of Public Instruction; Elizabeth Watson, University of Wisconsin, and Colleen Larsen, Wisconsin Technical College System; Randy Dahman, Department of Safety and Professional Services

DHS staff support present: Maia Stitt, Department of Health Services (DHS), Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources (BADR).

Guest: Don Posch, North County Independent Living Center.

Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:40 A.M. by Ben Barrett, Chairperson.

- The meeting was available via teleconference by calling via phone at (646) 558-8656 or (312) 626 6799 with the Meeting ID: 206 809 130. The meeting was also available via [Zoom](#).

II. Review and Approve April Quarterly Meeting Agenda

- A motion was made by Charles Vandenplas to approve the April 2020 quarterly meeting agenda. The motion was seconded by Roberto Escamilla II. Motion carried. See Motion Item 1.

III. Review and Approve October Quarterly Meeting Minutes

- A motion was made by Jason Ostrowski to approve the October quarterly meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Charles Vandenplas. Motion carried. See Motion Item 2.

IV. Public Comment on the State Plan for People with Physical Disabilities 2019-2021 or Issues Affecting People with Physical Disabilities

- Link to State Plan was provided: cpd.wisconsin.gov/pdffiles/stateplan2019-21.pdf
- No public comment was provided.



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V. Nomination and Voting Recap and Leadership Election Results

- Nominations were requested for Chair and Vice Chair positions. Due to the COVID pandemic, nominations were collected, and voting took place virtually prior to the quarterly meeting per decision by CPD Executive Committee.
- Jason Ostrowski and Gabriel Schlieve were nominated for the Chair and Ben Barrett was the only member nominated for Vice Chair.
- DHS support staff provided results. With 100 percent of members reporting. Jason Ostrowski received 80 percent of votes and Ben Barrett received 100 percent of votes.
 - A motion was made by Jackie Gordon to accept the nomination of Jason Ostrowski as Chair for the 2020 term. The motion was seconded by Charles Vandeplass. Motion carried. See Motion Item 3.
 - A motion was made by Jackie Gordon to accept the nomination of Ben Barrett as Vice Chair for the 2020 term. The motion was seconded by Charles Vandeplass. Motion carried. See Motion Item 4.

VI. Council on Physical Disabilities (CPD) Committee Updates

- Executive Committee
 - The Executive Committee met on January 16 and March 19, 2020.
 - The Executive Committee discussed postponing the 2020 Dan Johnson Advocacy Award and agreed the discussion and decision to members at the CPD quarterly meeting.
 - The full council discussed canceling the 2020 Dan Johnson Advocacy Award due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A motion was made by Jackie Gordon to postpone the Dan Johnson Advocacy Award and align it with the next Aging and Disability Resource Network conference. The motion was seconded by Jason Ostrowski. Motion carried. See Motion Item 5.



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- Jackie Gordon to draft language to notify guest list from previous Dan Johnson Advocacy Award of the decision to postpone the Dan Johnson Advocacy Award for 2020 and provide to Council on Physical Disabilities (CPD) members for review and then to send. See Action Item 1.
- The Executive Committee reviewed current membership and agreed a priority needs to be placed on increased recruitment efforts in 2020.
- The Executive Committee decided to allow DHS support staff to increase their involvement with CPD Emergency Preparedness Toolkit awareness and dissemination during the recent onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Executive Committee agreed that it would be beneficial to have the Executive committee meet more frequently during the COVID-19 pandemic and all current committees absorbed into the Council Physical Disabilities full council.
 - At the March 19, 2020 Executive Committee meeting a decision was made to absorb all committees to allow the CPD to respond more quickly to issues and priorities that could arise from due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Executive Committee agreed that the Bylaws need to be revised. Jason Ostrowski will reconvene the Bylaws Committee in June 2020 to begin review and revisions. See Action Item 2.
- CPD will review and finalized the 2019 Annual Report and begin drafting the 2020 Annual Report.
- CPD will need to begin drafting the 2021-2023 State Plan.
- Emergency Preparedness Committee
 - The Emergency Preparedness Committee met on January 31 and February 28, 2020.
 - The CPD website was updated to promote the Emergency Preparedness Toolkit and pandemic specific resources.
 - The Emergency Preparedness committee agreed to focus efforts on updating the Pandemic section of the toolkit.



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- Members discussed the updating of other materials in the Emergency Preparedness toolkit. Members will review the materials in the Emergency Preparedness toolkit and provide any additional edits, updates, or revisions at the July quarterly meeting during the Emergency Preparedness toolkit revision discussion. See Action Item 3.
 - DHS support staff will provide members with Emergency Preparedness toolkit tracking and budgets at the July 2020 Quarterly meeting. See Action Item 4.
- Transportation
 - Transportation Committee has not met in 2020 due to lack of quorum.

VII. Department of Health (DHS) Support Staff Updates

- DHS support staff are undergoing staffing changes but will continue to support the CPD and CPD activities.
- CPD members asked to provide feedback for isolation facilities and considerations for people with physical disabilities. CPD members will provide DHS support staff feedback by April 24, 2020 for inclusion in recommendations. See Action Item 5.
- CPD members were provided with a communication DHS received from the Ventilator Advisory Workgroup about ventilator priorities during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - DHS support staff shared this communication with all consumer advisory councils and committees supported in BADR.
 - CPD members reviewed the content of the communication and expressed concern and disagreement with the recommendations and conclusions reached by the Ventilator Advisory Workgroup.
 - Discussion was had about further involvement by CPD and for other issues that might require expedited review, discussion, and decisions.



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- DHS support staff acknowledged that this communication was receiving attention from multiple disability advocacy groups in disagreement with the Ventilator Advisory Workgroup recommendations.
- It was decided that members would be given time to review ventilator priority information. Members will send additional comments to the chair and vice chair for consideration and addition to future CPD committee meetings.
- It was recommended that CPD create a process or procedure to track and monitor issues related to COVID-19 so the council can respond in an expedited manner.
- Jason Ostrowski proposed that a standing agenda item for COVID-19 topics be added to all future CPD meetings so council members can continue to remain informed about COVID-19 related activities.

VIII. CPD Policies and Priorities in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

- The CPD addressed issues and topics that affected people with physical disabilities during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
 - Discussion on the Emergency Preparedness toolkit and opportunities to promote it further. The members also agreed that the 'Pandemic' section of the Emergency Preparedness toolkit would require updates.
 - Jason Ostrowski notified CPD members about a presentation hosted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Stakeholder Engagement conference call to address comments and concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic. Capacity for the call was limited to 200 participants. Jason will provide a link to the transcripts of the meeting when made available. See Action Item 6.

IX. CPD Liaison Updates

- Taqwanya Smith, Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT)
 - Wisconsin DOT has established a State Emergency Center to ensure essential transit and business services still take place during COVID-19.



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- The American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) transition plan was approved by the Federal Highway Administration in February 2020. The DOT will continue to submit updates every October.
- The DOT continues to work on ensuring an effective and accessible communication plan for people with disabilities. Prior to publishing of the finalized document the DOT



will be looking for feedback and comments from consumer councils related to accessibility and ease of use of the forms and documents, as well as addressing website accessibility needs. The DOT has chosen to base accessibility on Website Content Accessibility Guidelines, which is incorporated into Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act. The projected review time is April 2020.

- The DOT is also in the process of developing a new ADA Facility complaint form. Currently the DOT has a complaint form and process for denials on reasonable accommodations, however, this new form and process would be to address complaints regarding facility complaints for physical or structural barriers (i.e. missing curb cuts and sidewalks, inaccessible pedestrian walkways, and other physical barriers).
- Finally, the DOT provided a two day department-wide ADA training to staff. The training was well received and will now be offered to additional staff and sub-recipients who received grants through DOT to ensure people are trained and ensure non-discriminatory practices.
- Heather Bruemmer, Wisconsin Board of Aging and Long-Term Care (BOALTC)
 - Medigap Pub line and Ombudsman line are very busy.
 - The calls have been focused on information and guidance on prescription drug plans, Supplemental and Medicare Advantage plans, receiving and coordination of mail order or pharmacy prescription drugs.
 - There has been an increase in the number of people entering care facilities, and there are discussions in process on how to accommodate and issues arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic. Additional discussions are taking place on how the state will work with hospitals to address the possibility of a surge in COVID-19 cases.
 - Outreach review and how to ensure people they are a resource
- Jody Ullman, Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI)
 - OCI noted a majority of insurance companies are taking a proactive response related to health and auto insurance to help their members.



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- Some health plans are offering no-cost coverage for COVID-19 related issues and considering preventative services that might qualify.
- Life insurance is also being monitored. There are complaints of companies refusing to cover people, mainly elderly by refusing to write policies for anyone the company feels is 'at risk' for COVID-19. This is concerning to OCI and currently under review.
- Some businesses are also reporting interruptions in insurance because the insurance companies determined that COVID-19 is an exclusionary item in the policy.
 - OCI currently has all of the items listed above under discussion and review.
- Eva Kubinski, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI)
 - DPI has created a COVID-19 webpage.
 - Staff are working from home but still available for support and questions
 - DPI is receiving a lot of requests for assistance with challenges in meeting Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) in a social distancing environment. Timelines and milestones have been difficult to maintain, but they are establishing processes based on each individual situation when the staff are aware of the issue.
- Randy Dahman, Department of Safety and Professional Services
 - Staff are working remotely, and inspections are still taking place, but inspections need to be considered essential or required inspections only.
 - The 2021 Plan reviews under the Commercial Building Codes Wisconsin 2021 International Codes are being done remotely and public meetings have been put on hold. Public meetings are planned for some time in September 2020.
- Craig Werner, Wisconsin Department for Workforce Development (DWD)
 - Employment has been affected by COVID-19 Pandemic.
 - Employment has slowed down, but individuals are still seeking employment.



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- There is an increase in the number of those employed in areas that are considered 'essential' employment.
- However, there are some individuals who have been requested to have their employment support and services be put on hold. DWD is honoring these requests, and working with each individual to ensure the proper support is provided.
 - It was noted that the rate structures are in the process of changing because of the costs associated with additional work and coordination on the part of providers, and the extra expenses of doing business.

X. Discuss CPD 2020 Quarterly Meeting Dates

- The Council will meet on the following dates in 2020:
 - July 23, 2020 and October 22, 2020
- CPD will continue to meet virtually until otherwise stated.

XI. Adjourn

- A motion was made by Charles Vandenplas to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Roberto Escamilla II. Motion carried. See Motion Item 6.

The meeting adjourned at 12:32 P.M.