



State of Wisconsin Council on Physical Disabilities

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**Quarterly meeting: Oct. 25, 2012
Concourse Hotel, WI
Minutes**

Members and liaisons present: John Meissner, Heather Bruemmer (Aging Liaison), Ben Barrett, Jeff Fox, Karen Secor, Toby Tyler, Rick Merkle (Dept. of Safety & Professional Services), Joanne Zimmerman, Marty Evanson & Joanna Balsamo-Lilien (Dept of Commerce), Rick Merlke (via phone), Roberto Escamilla (via live meeting)

Staff: Dan Johnson, Molly Michels and Sarah Lincoln

Guests: Janet Devore, DHS; Jessica Mitchell, Federal Emergency Management Agency/DHS; Susan Burleigh, Dept. of Military Affairs; Mike Bachhuber, ILCW; Jim Glozier, ILCW

Meeting called to order at 9:15 a.m.

Motion to accept agenda – *Zimmermann/Tyler - carried*

Motion to accept meeting minutes from July 26, 2012. — *Tyler/Secor - carried*

Committee Reports and Liaison Updates:

- **Long Term Support and Employment** – Jeff Fox
 - The Executive Committee met and they are working on a letter to go to Mike Grecco at DVR to continue to support the TA and expansion for the VFPS. Dan will send a draft electronically.
 - They also drafted a letter of support of the expansion of Managed Care statewide. *Motion to approve Fox/Zimmermann - carried*

- **Housing Committee** – Joanne Zimmermann
 - At lunch we are having Mike Bachhuber to discuss Visitiability to explain why the language shouldn't be changed. The Council would like to change some of the wording in the Visitiability Brochure to be more clear about access on the 1st level. Joanne took our recommendations to the Housing for All Committee and she was told that they don't have to change the wording.

- **Transportation/Parking** - John Meissner
 - The Transportation Committee met with Tim the aid for Senator Patrowski, this was a result of the Legislative Breakfast. They discussed what we would like to propose – a summary of the meeting was mailed to all members. The Committee will also continue to meet with other groups once we have final language drafted.
- **Emergency Preparedness** - Karen Secor
 - This afternoon we have 3 ladies that are coming from different organizations to present to us on Emergency Preparedness. This presentation is a result of Karen being a member on the Statewide Emergency Preparedness Readiness Committee.

Liaison Updates

- **Aging Update** – Heather Bruemmer
 - Open enrollment is happening right now for Medicaid part D, Medicare Advantage and Wisconsin SeniorCare.
 - People are confused by the literature and commercials. At least 3 people have been scammed already.
 - Part D helpline has a brochure.
 - Helping folks that are confused with the CHP closing. SW Family Care Alliance has been granted the MCO to take over CHP members.
 - MediGap helpline handout with information was distributed.
 - Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act has no momentum – it is stalled again.
 - In Nov. Heather is going to be providing testimony on Assisted Living on a Federal Level to Health and Human Services. What is the future for Assisted Living?
- **DVR Update** – Craig Weiner
 - DVR outcomes from 2012
 - 3,250 achieved employment – 8% above goal
 - \$26 million dollars was spent by DVR and the actual earnings for the consumer are \$56million. The average earnings were \$12.27/hr.
 - The order of selection has been revised and DVR began the new process for Oct. 1, 2012. Because it is so early we don't have status for how the change will affect the consumers.
 - 20 project positions – Employment Specialist at DVR will be hired in 2013– they will meet with the business community to increase job placement.
 - Walgreens program has hired 10 ppl to date and they are planning to roll out their program statewide.
 - Working with the schools to expand the OJT efforts for youth to cover wages.

- **Dept. of Commerce** - Marty Evenson/Joanna Balsamo-Lilien
 - Joanna is taking over for Marty effective today.
 - Homelessness continues to be a huge issue in WI. 36 days is the average time a homeless person spends in a shelter.
 - Homeless veterans will be given a housing voucher that is accessible and appropriate.
 - April 1 they stopped supporting a website that showed all the low income and handicapped housing due to funding. WHEDA is working on trying to replace that website. The Council is happy to provide consultation on the accessibility of the housing to WHEDA if they need it.
 - WHEDA Executive Director Wayman Winston would be a great person to come to the next meeting to discuss housing issues.
 - 2012 Action Plan has been approved by HUD – we will promote visitability and universal design.
 - Community Development Block Grant – designated 7 regions around the state and each region will decide how to spend those funds.
 - Neighborhood Stabilization – used for foreclosures. The entire funds will be used.

- **Dept. of Safety and Professional Services – Division of Industry Services, Bureau of Field Services and Bureau of Technical Services** – Rick Merkle
 - Bernie Madson will be assigning a replacement for Rick to the Council due to the reorganization.
 - Division of Industry Services has also been added.

- **Dept. of Natural Resources** - Andy Janicki
 - Andy had to resign his position as our Liaison for the Council because he took another job in California.

Lunch – Mike Bachhuber discussed Visitability

Emergency Preparedness Panel – *Janet Devore, DHS; Jessica Mitchell, Federal Emergency Management Agency/DHS; Susan Burleigh, Dept. of Military Affairs*

Public Comment - None

Old Business:

- Draft letter of support for VFPS to be mailed to Mike Grecco - *Motion Tyler/Esamilla - carried*
- Visitability comment to Housing for All Committee Members. Ben and Jeff will draft a letter to the Committee citing the Council comments. *Motion Fox/Meissner - carried*

New business:

- Height and other accessible concerns for hotel beds in accessible hotel rooms – John Meissner.

- Recruitment of new members – Ben will draft a letter to Christine Duranceau and Charles Vandenplaus to let her know that her attendance is an issue.
- HR 6490 Federal Legislation regarding alternative DME purchases. *Motion to sign onto letter of support – Fox/Tyler – carried*
- Meeting dates for 2013
 - Jan 24, 2013 Madison
 - April 18, 2013 – Legislative Breakfast – Inn on the Park
 - July 18 or 25, 2013 – Not in Madison
 - Oct 24, 2013 – Madison

Next meeting Jan. 24, 2013, Madison, WI

Agenda:

- WHEDA Executive Director Wayman Winston
- Height and other accessible concerns for hotel beds in accessible hotel rooms
- Recruitment of new members
- Michael Blumenfeld – update on Biennel Budget

Motion to adjourn – 3:55 Fox/Escamilla - carried