



# State of Wisconsin Council on Physical Disabilities

1 WEST WILSON ST, ROOM 437  
POST OFFICE BOX 7851  
MADISON, WI 53707-7851

Voice: 608-261-7816  
TTY: 608-267-9880  
Fax: 608-266-3386  
[www.pdcouncil.state.wi.us](http://www.pdcouncil.state.wi.us)

**Quarterly meeting: October 27, 2011**  
**The Madison Concourse Hotel**  
**1 West Dayton Street · Madison, Wisconsin 53703**

**Members and liaisons present:** Craig Werner, Heather Breummer, Karen Secor, Christine Duranceau, Marge Liberski, John Meissner, Ben Barrett, Jeff Fox, Tobie Tyler, Jon Baltmanis, Barb Belling, Charles Vandenplas, Marty Evanson,

**Others:** Molly Michels, John Reiser, Steve Smart, PIE interpreter

Meeting called to order at 9:06 AM

*Motion to accept agenda. Barrett/Fox—passed*

*Motion to accept meeting minutes from July 29, 2011. Barrett/Fox—passed*

*Motion to have WCPD prepare a 1 page letter supporting elements of Survival Coalition's letter on proposed Long Term Care and Medicaid cuts. Fox/Tyler—passed.*

Jon Baltmanis and Ben Barrett will collect the input from members. Dan Johnson and Molly Michels will help draft the letter.

*Motion to draft a letter urging DHS and the Governor to reach out to people with disabilities on wait lists to inform them of the Urgent Need provisions for Family Care enrollment. Fox/Duranceau—passed.*

**January meeting discussion:**

- Demonstration by Orlando Garcia.
- Meeting will be virtual via Live Meeting.
- ADRC/ Tech Colleges/ ILC sites
- Documents ahead of time
- Send Live Meeting step by step instructions
- Marge will need interpreters in person. Probably at Options for Independence in Green Bay.
- Ask Robin Jones at Great Lakes ADA to present.

**Transportation Committee report:**

- Updates to state plan
- The Council members discussed the procedure for distribution of disability placards for parking and the definition of disability that's used.
- Council will try to get someone from DOT or from Wisconsin Medical Society to present on these issues in April.

**Voter ID revision bill: AB226/SB162**

- Council members discussed the proposed letter in support of these bills.
- Assembly had a hearing, but did not discuss this bill. The Senate has not heard the bill yet.
- The Council had discussed the issue of fees charged for birth certificates required for voter IDs.
- *Motion to send the letter supporting AB226/SB 162 to both Assembly and Senate committees. Baltmanis/Tyler—passed.*
- Council members will research the birth certificate issue and report back at the January meeting.
- Council members discussed having information for alternative contact information. Also update contact information for all members.

**Emergency preparedness:**

- State plan: get three state level officials for a panel discussion on emergency preparedness for people with disabilities.
- Public health, human services, emergency services.
- Perhaps Divisions within the Department of Health Services.
- Try Susan Burleigh, Division of Military Affairs.
- Karen Secor has been attending the Public Health Preparedness meetings on behalf of the Council. The group is working on a five year plan. Karen is also attending Risk Assessment subcommittee meetings via conference calls. Karen is also involved in the Iron County emergency planning meetings.
- Chris Duranceau will ask Portage County for its emergency preparedness plan.

**DNR Accessibility recommendations:**

Ben Barrett and Jeff Fox will work with Dan Johnson to prepare recommendations for Andy Janicki at the DNR. One of the recommendations is to disallow class 5 gravel for trails since wheelchairs get stuck in that form of surface.

*Motion to formulate draft position papers on enhancements to accessible campsites within state parks, those administered by the DNR, and others. Fox/Tyler—passed.*

Marge Liberski-Asnoe indicated that some sites need to be enlarged to accommodate a large RV. Ben Barrett, Jeff Fox and Marge Liberski-Aznoe will work on the position papers with Dan Johnson. Jon Baltmanis said that the RV platforms may be smaller than required by federal ADA regulations.

**Stray Electricity:**

- Karen Secor discussed the use of Stetzer meters and filters for “dirty electricity.”
- Karen discussed her history of chemical sensitivity and her issues with electrical sensitivity. Electric frequencies vs. magnetic frequencies vs. radiation and how they relate to potential health concerns. Readings can vary by day or hour. She disconnected her wireless computer access to reduce radio waves.
- Karen contacted Noah Hershkowitz to find contacts at the UW regarding this issue and received a response from another professor at UW.
- Karen discussed the World Health Association’s categorization of cell phone radiation as a potential carcinogen and the danger of radio frequencies and electromagnetic exposure. California has passed legislation to allow people to opt out of having smart meters in their homes. There is similar legislation in Massachusetts. Handout from [www.emrelief.com](http://www.emrelief.com)
- Noah Hershkowitz works with radio frequency fields in his profession. There is electromagnetic radiation in the air and in these devices. Noah explained in detail how these devices work and the history of electromagnetic radiation concerns.
- Noah and Karen will continue to work together on this issue with Excel Energy.

**Next meeting January 26, 2012.**

**New business:**

- Marge wants to talk about how DMV and DOT respond to laws that change things and how they impact people with disabilities. Case in point: breathalyzer devices required for OWI that require humming and deep breathing. This would affect people who are deaf, asthmatic, have COPD, etc. Jon Baltmanis suggested contacting the person who sponsored the bill in the legislature.

*Motion to adjourn Fox/Liberski-Aznoe—passed.*