



1 WEST WILSON ST, ROOM 527

POST OFFICE BOX 7851

MADISON, WI 53707-7851

Voice: 608-261-7816

Fax: 608-266-5629

State of Wisconsin

Council on Physical Disabilities

October 23, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Members present:

Benjamin Barrett, Chairperson

Joanne Zimmerman

Karen Secor

Noah Hershowitz

Roberto Escamilla, II

Michael Kindschi

John Meissner – phone in the afternoon

Jon Hoelter

Benjamin Barrett, Chairperson of Long-Term Support, Health and Employment Committee;

John Meissner, Chairperson of Transportation and Parking Committee;

Joanne Zimmerman, Chairperson of Housing Committee; and

Karen Secor, Chairperson of Emergency Preparedness

Members absent:

Joey York

Charles Vandenplas

John Meissner

Liaisons present:

Heather Bremmer, Board on Aging and Long-Term Care;

Craig Whener, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation;

Joanna Balsoma-Lilien, Department of Administration-Division of Housing;

Barbara Belling, Office of the Commissioner of Insurance

Staff present:

Gary Ross, IT Support.

Guests:

Katherine Patterson -DOT,

Diana Sullivan -Independence 1st;

Brian Peters – Housing for All Advisory Committee;

Trisha Pugal – CAE,
Janet Devore, Office of Preparedness and Emergency Health, DHS;
Melanie Kaplan, Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing, DHS

Welcome and Introductions – Call to order at 9:15 a.m.

Review and Approval of Agenda – *Motion to approve Hershkowitz/Hindichi – carried*

Functional Needs Took Kit - Janet Devoure, Office of Preparedness and Emergency Health Care –
Division of Public Health, DHS

- Providing specific training program for local health services – Functional Assessment Services Team (FAST) so that they can be deployed in emergency situations to help people with disabilities. Trained approximately 200 ppl. and are looking for others that may be interested in the training. The Council was asked to do outreach to people they think may be interested in the getting the training.
- 2006 DHS issued guidance to local Health Services depts. to help them deal with disasters on the local level. DHS is working to update that guidance to re-issue that guidance now that it has been updated.
- FEMA has been working on updating their guidance to States on emergency preparedness planning. DHS will update our State’s curriculum so it is up to date.
- Jan asked the Council to review and give input on emergency government and to have a representative from the PD Council and other Councils to provide knowledge and input on how to move forward. She also asked for more involvement in doing the training that is provided across the State to the FAST teams as well as the FEMA Course they are re-tooling now.
- Jan has reached out to the ADRC’s and MCO DHS management to see if they are interested in participating.
- There will be a public page on the DHS website that will include all the planning documents by Jan. 2015.
- Melanie Kaplan shared an electronic copy of the Protect What Matters Toolkit for the Deaf/Blind Community – Sarah forwarded the kit to council members. The toolkit was developed with funds from a grant and was developed with a lot of input from the Deaf Community. Community Information Sessions were conducted statewide to bring in stakeholders to provide feedback on the content, 30-50 ppl attended 5 different sessions. Leaders in the deaf/blind community have taken on this toolkit and have expanded it to reach so many more people. If you would like copies of the manual Melanie can provide a hard copy when requested. The distribution of the kit will be done on a grassroots level so there is an explanation of the kit when distributed. The kit can be replicated for all needs – you can just pick and choose pieces of the kit in order to fit your population. There is not additional money to make changes to the kit to fit other populations but the kit is not copyrighted.
- The Council complimented Melanie on the quality of the toolkit.

85.21 Programs – Katie Patterson, DOT

- The funds are available in all 72 counties to provide transportation services to seniors and individuals with disabilities. It can be used for rides, subsidize transportation, establish a trust funds, purchase equipment, the funds can also be used for the local match for federal transportation programs.

- Katie shared some ridership data for the One-Way Ride program. There are a few counties that have not submitted their data yet.
- Noah asked if the data collected includes rides missed because there wasn't an appropriate vehicle for someone with disabilities. Katie agreed it was important but that it wasn't a piece of data that is currently being collected. Missed rides and drop rides data would be good to have as well. There are plans to implement an online piece to their services this fall so all reports and data will be listed there as well. That should help with the data collection.
- Katie will continue to keep us updated as new data is submitted and changes to the program are made.
- <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/docs/specialized-contact-map.pdf>

New Motion Symbol for International Disability – Diana Sullivan, Independence 1st.

- Girl Scouts of WI Southeast in Milwaukee and Waukesha area and some disability advocates (ACAP) are promoting a new icon for the universal symbol for disability.
- The Girl Scouts of WI are going to feature the project in their video to promote Girl Scouts. The girls are good spokespeople for this project as well.
- The symbol was designed to reflect someone who is in action and in charge in their community. The symbol has been used at Independence 1st in Milwaukee to paint the icon onto the asphalt at all the handicapped parking stalls at Independence 1st. The Girl Scouts and ACAP members assisted in the painting of the symbol. The asphalt company was so impressed that they agreed to use the new symbol on all their future parking lot projects.
- Independence 1st is considering asking the State if the new icon could be implemented statewide. Milwaukee County has already made a commitment to use the new symbol. They feel that the new image promotes inclusion of people with disabilities.
- The Council has been working with Senator Petrowski on the parking changes and the last issue they need to address is the signage issue. We may be able to propose that the new symbol be used statewide through implementing the legislation.
- The Council Parking Sub-Committee can take this issue on as they move forward with the signage issue. We can connect Diana Sullivan with John Meissner as the Council moves forward with this initiative.

Motion to send the 2 individual Girl Scouts a letter to congratulate them on their achievements in this project. Secor/Zimmerman. Ben will draft the letter and send it to Dan for final revisions. – carried.

Presentation on Visitability Website and Activities to Recruit Supporters – Brian Peters, Housing for All Advisory Committee

- Visitability Committee was started in 2003.
- www.visitablewisconsin.org - initial work was started by a student at UW Milwaukee.
- This is an educational effort to do outreach to organizations around visitability. We are not looking to do anything with the legislature at this point.
- If you have pictures please share them with Brian. If you have any other feedback on the site please give that input to Brian.
- Brian is asking for the Councils help in sharing the website with others around the state including the State Departments.
- There is an endorsement link on the website that the Council could fill out to endorse the website and the movement.

- The visitability changes are not just for aging and people with disabilities – it makes it easier for everyone to access their homes.
- The builders really need to get on board in order for this to really make traction.

Updates from Liaisons

- Barb Belling – Office of the Commissioner of Insurance.
 - On Sept. 8th the federal government announced 3 grants were given in WI to assist with the Healthcare Exchange. Partners for community Development and Northwest WI Concentrated Employment Program, The University of WI System Board of Regents. Individual navigators will need to be licensed through the Commission of Insurance.
 - Open enrollment for the Exchange will be Nov. 15, 2014 -Feb. 15, 2015.
 - There is a map on the website that shows where to go for all the insurers that offer individual coverage in 2014.
- Joanna Balsoma-Lilien – DOA Division of Housing
 - Annual plan for Housing comment period is ending in late Feb. Joanna will take the PD Council annual report for input into their plan.
 - They encourage visitability for all their contracts.
 - There is also a priority for disabled and disadvantaged people.
 - Joanna will be leaving DOA Housing at the end of the month and will make sure her supervisor, Theola Carter appoints a new Liaison for our Council.
- Craig Whener – DVR
 - Placed 4,415 individuals into jobs – highest DVR has placed in 15 years. 500 above the established goal. The additional federal funding really helped with the number
 - The waitlist for category 2 is down to 1 month from 5 months. If this remains – DVR will be without a wait list for Cat. 2 in just a few short months.
 - The Reauthorization of the Rehab Act could change the way that DVR serves youth.
- Heather Bremmer – Board on Aging and Long-Term Care
 - Open enrollment for Medicaid Advantage and Medicaid Part D is happening now.
 - Working with UW Madison Pharmacy School students are volunteering their time to do plan finders for individuals without any identifiable information. That help has been a great asset for the Board.
 - Working on the campaign “Right to Vote”.

Updates on Long Term Support, Health and Employment – Ben Barrett

- MAPP Ad-Hoc committee has been meeting with DHS to continue to work on proposing MAPP changes. They are working on an analysis to submit to the Dept. on the changes they would recommend. DHS says that 5,000 new people would come into MAPP with the changes that we suggested – the committee doesn’t know where the Dept. got that number.
- Survival Coalition comments on the federal Home and Community Based Waivers Renewals. Sarah will resend the information from Survival
- Update on Family Care Expansion - none to share.

Public Comment – None

WI Hotel and Lodging Association – Trisha A. Pugal

- Issues around bed height – need to have room under the bed and next to the bed for access to the bed when in a chair.
- Roll in showers are not accessible for many ppl in wheelchairs. They need to have a chair to transfer into because most times the wheelchair can't go into the shower.
- ILC's would be a good resource for hotels when building – IL's could assist hotels when making the rooms accessible.
- Trisha suggested that she would do some outreach to the hotels in her association to educate them disability accessibility issues.
- Trisha asked the Council to provide information to her to pass on to her association to educate them on disability issues.
- The deadline for submitting an article in the association newsletter is Dec. The newsletter comes out in Jan.

Old Business:

Review and discuss support CPD Biennial Budget Items

- 4 vacancies on the council – need consumers and parent rep. Jon will follow-up with the Gov's appointments office.
- Business Cards for the council - Sarah

ADA Legacy Project 25th Anniversary Celebration

- There is now a plan to write and publish a book to recall the civil rights history of WI disability advocates. Looking for an author to put it together. Continuing to gather materials for the book.
- The ILC's are leading the celebrations on a regional basis in July. The Legacy Bus Tour will be here June 24-27. Arriving in Milwaukee at Independence 1st – they are planning a celebration for that visit.
- Maureen Ryan has spoken with the Gov's office about having an event here at the Capitol with the Legacy Tour Bus.
- There will be one other city visited before the bus heads to Montana.
- Dan has a video called Lives Worth Living by Erik Neudel. It talks about the national Disability movement.
- The PD Council is 25 years old next year as well. The first meeting was in Feb. 1990.

NEMT Audit

- The audit review is taking longer than expected – likely not ready till 2015.

New Business:

Legislative Breakfast Planning in April 23, 2015

- Ben provided an overview of the Genesis of the legislative breakfast, and being the need to find a vehicle that would help the council members educate the legislators about the needs of people

with physical disabilities and the services and programs that needed to be funded or laws or regulations changed to help them accomplish the state plan goals they have identified.

- Ben will take the lead on planning; Joanne, Michael, Karen, and Heather will help out with the planning of the arrangements that will need to be made for the legislative breakfast. As in the past, issue papers will be prepared for the legislative packets with the support of staff being requested. There was discussion about possible using the capitol legislative chambers as a breakfast meeting location. The workgroup will follow up with Jon.

Updating State Plan

- Review the draft that was distributed. Sarah and Dan are requested to work with the council members/committees to identify the changes required, work on a needs assessment, review and update the demographic information on people with physical disabilities, help identify and set up public input process/sessions and prepare the state plan for dissemination with final Council approval.

25th Anniversary of the PD Council

- Plan a gathering of past members to celebrate in July for the July meeting. Executive Committee will put this on their next agenda.

Set the Dates for the 2015 Council Meeting – parking passes scheduled in advance is important:

- January 22, 2015 - Governor's Conference Room
- April 23, 2015 – Governor's Conference Room
- July 23, 2015 – 25th Anniversary Celebration
- October 22, 2015 – Governor's Conference Room

Adjourn – *motion to Zimmerman/Kindschi – carried.*