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**Wisconsin Council on Physical Disabilities (CPD)
Quarterly Teleconference Meeting**

Thursday, January 25, 2024

9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Action and Motion Items

A. Action Items

1. **Action Item:** No action items.

B. Motion Items

1. **Motion Item:** Elizabeth Watson made a motion to approve the January 25, 2024, Quarterly meeting agenda. Jeff Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried.
2. **Motion Item:** Roberto Escamilla II made a motion to approve the October 26, 2023, Quarterly meeting minutes. Karen Secor seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. **Motion Item:** Roberto Escamilla II made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Charles Vandenplas seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions, Ben Barrett, Chairperson

Council members present: Ben Barrett; Jeff Fox; Karen Secor; Roberto Escamilla II; Jackie Gordon; Gabriel Schlieve; Emma Thelke; Ramsey Lee; Charles Vandenplas; Jason Glozier, Stacy Ellingen and Artrell Mason.

Council members absent (excused*): Ann Belisle; Nicholas Zouski, Eva Kubinski* and Nicole Herda.

Liaisons present: Taqwanya Smith, Department of Transportation; Kristine Zukrow, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; Jeremy Kaukl, Department of Safety and Professional Services; Elizabeth Watson, University of WI System; Colleen Larsen, WI Technical College System; and Jessica Trudell, Board on Aging and Long-Term Care.

Guests: Don Posh, Indigo; Representative Jimmy Anderson and Chris Stoa.

Captioning Services: Margo Lucas.

Interpreting Services: Chantel Wiedmeyer and Nicole Keeler.

DHS Staff: Ashley Walker, Department of Health Services (DHS), Bureau of Aging and Disability Resource (BADR); Amber Mullet, DHS, BADR; Angela Brenna, DHS, BADR; Lisa Sobczyk, DHS, BADR; Jason Anderson, DHS, BADR; Christopher Rawlings, DHS, BADR; Karen Odegaard, DHS Office of the Secretary; Jennifer Anderson, DHS, BADR; and Zachary Davenport, DHS, BADR.

II. Meeting Called to Order

Ben Barrett, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M.

The meeting was made available via phone at (669) 254-5252 and Meeting ID: 161 1786 1716 and via Zoom: <https://dhswi.zoomgov.com/j/16117861716>.

III. Review and Approve January 25, 2024, Quarterly Meeting Agenda

- Elizabeth Watson made a motion to approve the January 25, 2024, Quarterly meeting agenda. Jeff Fox seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 1.

IV. Review and Approve October 26, 2023, Quarterly Meeting Minutes

- Roberto Escamilla II made a motion to approve the October 26, 2023, Quarterly meeting minutes. Karen Secor seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 2.

V. Public Comment on the State Plan for People with Disabilities, 2022-2024 (<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/cpd/cpd-state-plan-2022-24.pdf>) or Issues Impacting People with Physical Disabilities (9:15 A.M.–9:25 A.M.)

- Roberto Escamilla II commented that he read an article about proposed housing legislation that could impact people with disabilities in WI.

VI. Presentation by Representative Jimmy Anderson on His Authored/Sponsored Proposals and Legislation That May Impact People with Disabilities in WI

- Representative Jimmy Anderson and Chris Stoa discussed the following Legislation:
 - Assembly Bill 904/Senate Bill 831 relating to information technology accessibility standards and rule-making authority. Representative Jimmy Anderson explained that he would like to see all state websites be accessible and he said he is interested in learning more about the Title II changes to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
 - Assembly Bill 785 requiring hospitals to provide plain language itemized billing. Representative Jimmy Anderson stated that constituents have reached out to his office expressing distress about confusing medical bills. Representative Jimmy Anderson discussed the need for plain language with members.

VII. Follow-Up Questions and Answers for Representative Jimmy Anderson

- CPD Members, Representative Jimmy Anderson and Chris Stoa discussed ways CPD can work with the Representative's office to remain informed on issues concerning individuals with physical disabilities in WI.

VIII. Presentation on the State of Housing Affordability by Courtney Cooperman, Housing Advocacy Organizer, National Low Income Housing Coalition

- Courtney Cooperman shared a presentation with CPD about the affordability of housing. She provided members with access to information about:
 - Affordable Rent for Wisconsin: <https://nlihc.org/oor/state/wi>
 - Wisconsin Housing Needs: <https://nlihc.org/housing-needs-by-state/wisconsin>
 - Congressional state and district profiles: <https://nlihc.org/housing-needs-by-state/wisconsin>
 - Registration for all webinars and working group calls: <https://nlihc.org/working-groupcalls>
 - Tenant Talk on disability justice: <https://nlihc.org/resource/nlihcs-tenant-talk-housing-and-disability-rights-now-available>
 - Tenant Talk Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/347376569049436>
 - Online portal with voter registration and information: <https://p2a.co/benNiuj>
 - Nonpartisan voter and candidate engagement resources: <https://www.ourhomes-ourvotes.org/>
 - Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition policy priorities: <https://nlihc.org/explore-issues/projects-campaigns/disaster-housing-recovery/policy>
 - Become a DHRC member: <https://nlihc.org/disaster-housing-coalition>
 - Legislative Action Center: <https://nlihc.org/take-action>
 - Link to subscribe to NLIHC emails: <https://nlihc.org/sign-receive-nlihc-emails>
 - NLIHC membership: <https://nlihc.org/membership>
 - Online Advocates' Guide: <https://nlihc.org/explore-issues/publications-research/advocates-guide>

IX. CPD Liaison Updates

- Sarah Smith, Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI)

- OCI is preparing for Open Enrollment and continue to support the Medicaid unwinding post pandemic efforts to maintain health coverage for Wisconsinites. They have a digital toolkit for partners that want to help spread the word about the unwinding. It can be found at <https://wiscovered.com/media-toolkit/>
- **Taqwanya Smith, Wisconsin Department of Transportation**
 - Public Comment was received for the 2023 ADA Transition Plan. DOT is reviewing comments. DOT is partnering with the Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) and Independence First to provide information in ASL.
- **Eva Kubinski, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction:**
 - No report received.
- **Kristine Zuckrow, Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development:**
 - DVR is seeing an increase in referrals and applicants. Kristine Zuchrow shared quarterly reports on Consumers with physical disabilities receiving benefits counseling, rehabilitation technical services and training grants. DHS Support Staff shared reports via email with CPD prior to meeting. Kristine shared DWD hired Meredith Dressel for Central Management Team Administrator.
- **Jeremy Kaukl, Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services:**
 - Shared that they are currently working on adopting the 2021 building codes from the ADA Guidelines for buildings and facilities covered under Title II.
- **Colleen Larsen, Wisconsin Technical College System:**
 - Colleen Larsen shared that WI Technical College System is working closely with DVR to provide programs for individuals with disabilities. She shared some resource documents outlining what types of services are available.
- **Nicholas Zouski, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources:**
 - No report provided.
- **Dr. Elizabeth Watson, University of Wisconsin System:**
 - Elizabeth Watson shared that the University of Wisconsin System is partnering with DWD/DVR to support community integrated employment services.
- **Jessica Trudell, Board on Aging and Long-Term Care:**
 - Jessica Trudell shared that the Open Enrollment period for Medicare was October 15-December 7th which is a very busy time for the Medigap Helpline. She stated the Volunteer Ombudsman Program is expanding into Assisted Living homes through a pilot project in 4 counties. Jessica explained that BOALTC continues to support the Medicaid unwinding efforts and those who

lost coverage and are now Medicare eligible are encouraged to call the Medigap Helpline.

- **Jessica also stated that CPD may find the following Legislation to be of interest:**
 - [Assembly Bill 653](#) and [Senate Bill 682](#) relating to surrogate decision making and next of Kin.
 - [Assembly Bill 162](#) and [Senate Bill 155](#) relating to the notification of certain facility closures.

X. CPD Committee Updates

• Emergency Preparedness, Karen Secor

- Karen Secor provided updates on CPD Emergency Preparedness Toolkit distribution and multiple outreach events. Kare shared that the Committee continues to do outreach through presenting online and in-person and planning on having exhibit booths at conferences.

• Housing, Jeff Fox

- The Committee continues to meet bi-monthly and work on strategies and goals linked to the 2022-2024 CPD Work Plan.

• Employment and Health, Roberto Escamilla II:

- The Committee rescheduled their last meeting to February 13, 2024, from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM.

• Transportation, Charles Vandenplas

- The Committee has invited Kyle Kleist, the Executive Director from the Center for Independent Living for Western WI to talk about the New Freedom Transportation Program, transportation legislation and other volunteer driver programs.

XI. Discuss 2024 Council Quarterly Meeting Dates and Locations

- The CPD Members discussed the 2024 meeting dates and locations.

XII. Adjourn

- Roberto Escamilla II made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Charles Vandenplas seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 3.

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 P.M.