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Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities (GCPD) Quarterly Teleconference Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, November 15, 2023
9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.**

Action and Motion Items

A. Action Items

1. **Action Item:** DHS support staff will send out an email to full membership soliciting volunteers for the Falconer and Blakeley Award Workgroup and schedule a meeting.

B. Motion Items

1. **Motion Item:** David Morstad made a motion to approve the GCPD November 15, 2023, Quarterly meeting agenda. Dan Laatsch seconded the motion. Motion carried.
2. **Motion Item:** Rhonda Staats made a motion to approve the August 16, GCPD Quarterly Meeting minutes. David Morstad seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. **Motion Item:** Nancy Leipzig made a motion to adjourn. David Morstad seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions, Margaret Kristan, Chairperson

Committee members present: Margaret Kristan, Ben Barrett; Ashley Mathy, Dan Laatsch, Rhonda Staats, Ramsey Lee, Tiffany Payne, Julie Blasky, BJ Ermanc, Nancy Leipzig, Justin Koestler, and David Morstad.

Committee members absent (excused*): Stacy Stone, Dan Witt, Dan Idzikowski Katherine Schneider, and Pearl Fessenden. *

Committee liaisons present: Eva Kubinski; Sarah Kuehn, Patty Zallar, and Colleen Larson.

Guests: Jeff Fox, and Michele Castile.

Captioning Services: Peggy Christensen

Interpreting Services: Nicole Keeler, and Carly Bieri

DHS staff support present: Ashley Walker, Department of Health Services (DHS), Bureau of Aging and Disability Resource (BADR); Angela Brenna, DHS, BADR; Zachary Davenport, DHS, BADR; and Lisa Sobczyk, DHS, BADR.

II. Margaret Kristan, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:04 A.M.

The meeting was available via phone at 1(669) 254-5252 and Meeting ID: 161 1786 1716 and Zoom: <https://dhs.wi.zoomgov.com/j/16117861716>

III. Review and Approve November 15, 2023, Quarterly Meeting Agenda

- David Morstad made a motion to approve the GCPD November 15, 2023, Quarterly meeting agenda. Dan Laatsch seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 1.

IV. Review and Approve August 16, 2023, Quarterly Meeting Minutes

- Rhonda Staats made a motion to approve the August 16, GCPD Quarterly Meeting minutes. David Morstad seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 2.

V. Public Comment on Issues Affecting People with Disabilities

- No public comment received.

VI. GCPD 75 Anniversary

- ***Falconer and Blakely Award***
 - The Committee discussed moving forward with creating a Workgroup for the Falconer and Blakeley Awards.
 - Tiffany Payne, Ben Barrett, Ramsey Lee and Rhonda Staats volunteered to be the leads in Blakeley and Falconer Award Work Group Meetings.
 - DHS support staff will send out an email to full membership soliciting volunteers for the Falconer and Blakeley Award Workgroup.

VII. Unified Voices: Engage for Change, In-person Summit Feedback

- The Committee members shared their experiences the Engage for Change Disability Summit that was held at the Double Tree East hotel in Madison, October 3-5, 2023.

- Committee members who attended shared that the experience was over-all positive, a great opportunity for networking and that they would like to see DHS continue to host the summit annually or bi-annually.

VIII. Discuss GCPD Work Plan and Policy Initiatives

- The Committee discussed the GCPD Work Plan and the need to update the strategies and deliverables in the Work Plan. Also discussed moving forward with Policy Initiatives and taking this discussion to the Executive Committee.

IX. GCPD 2023 Winter Election

- **Chair**
 - Margaret Kristan's term as GCPD Chair will be up on December 31, 2024. Margaret Kristan and DHS Support Staff sent out a solicitation for nominations to GCPD Full Committee due November 17, 2023.
- **Executive Committee Member-at-Large**
 - Tiffany Payne was announced as the newest member of the GCPD Executive Committee, replacing John Hartman. Ramsey Lee was reelected to continue serving on the Executive Committee.

X. Updates from Chairs of GCPD Sub-Committees, Workgroups and Outreach

- **Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee; Katherine Schneider:** Katherine Schneider announced her resignation as the GCPD Access and Sub-Committee Chair. The Committee will appoint a new Chair at the next meeting on January 11, 2024.
- The Sub-Committee is still focused on the recommendation of the reinstatement of the ADA Compliance officer/digital access coordinator.
- David Morstad shared an update on the November 1, 2023 Concordia Presentation/Panel Members provided to students in Concordia's health care profession programs. The Sub-Committee will be continuing discussion on future collaborations with Concordia and other post-secondary institutions.
- **Transportation Workgroup; Rhonda Staats:** No update to report.
- **Employment Workgroup; Nancy Leipzig:** Nancy Leipzig shared that the Workgroup is working on a letter to support reform on the State Use Program.

XI. Liaison Updates

- **Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)** – Discussed the top things happening in DVR. Continue to recruit, hire and train staff, making progress on Career Pathways Advancement grant, Working on Federal Fiscal Year 2024-2027 State Plan, Implementing DEI Action Plan, monitoring consumer

services and spending patterns, conducting leadership training for all DVR managers, and refresher training on vocational Law.

- **Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS)** – No Liaison Update to Review.
- **WI Department of Public Instruction** – No Liaison Update to Review.

XII. Council Updates

- **Council for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind (CDHH) – BJ (Elizabeth) Ermenc:** There are no key policy issues under consideration at this time. Our council is meeting in December to draft a Strategic Plan and initiate policies to document and implement it
- **Statutory Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (SCAODA)** - No Council Report to review.
- **Council on Physical Disabilities (CPD)** – Distributed Emergency Preparedness Toolkits at A Home for Everyone Conference and Self-Determination conference in 2023.
- **Statutory Council on Blindness (SCOB)** – Patty Zallar shared that SCOB has many new members, and she is considering being the GCPD SCOB Liaison.

XIII. Adjourn

- Nancy Leipzig made a motion to adjourn. David Morstad seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 3.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM