



State of Wisconsin

Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

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Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Quarter 2 Meeting

June 7, 2024, 10am-4pm

Hill Farms State Office Building
4822 Madison Yards Way, Madison, WI 53705
Room S147

Action Items and Motion Items

Action Items

1. **Action Item:** Creation of a subcommittee or workgroup that works with ODHH staff on legislation to advise the Council. David Seligman motion, Lisa Stewart Boettcher seconds. Four members support, one opposes. Motion carries.
2. **Action Item:** The creation of a survey to be sent out to the full council on priority issues for the Council. BJ Ermenc motion, David Seligman second. No opposition. Motion carries.
3. **Action Item:** Council requests more information regarding ODHH services and for census data to generate a report of: number of DHH people served, program information, and demographics. David Seligman motion, Lisa Stewart-Boettcher second. No opposition, motion carries.

Motion Items

1. **Motion Item:** Motion to approve modified June Q2 agenda. David Seligman motion, BJ Ermenc second. All in favor, motion carries.
2. **Motion Item:** Motion to approve Q1 meeting minutes. Leia SparksMotion, BJ Ermenc second. All in favor, motion carries.
3. **Motion Item:** Motion to move agenda item #15, ODHH Updates, to fill time prior to lunch. BJ Ermenc Motion, David Seligman second. All in favor, motion carries.
4. **Motion Item:** Motion to adjourn by Lisa Steward Boettcher, second by BJ Ermenc. Adjourn at 4:02pm

1. 10:00am Call to Order—10:04 am

Members in attendance: Margo Lucas (Captionist), Kate Block (Interpreter), Nicole Keeler (Interpreter), Maria Kielma (Interpreter), Jonathan Petermon (Chairman), BJ Ermenc (Co-Chair), Leia Sparks (secretary), Zachary Davenport and Jason Anderson (Program, policy Analyst DHH Support), Christopher Rawlings (ODHH Director), Katy Hagmeyer (Deaf Member), David Seligman (Hard of Hearing Member), Billy Mauldin (Ex Officio), Kathy Johnson (HLAA- WI Liaison), Lisa Stewart-Boettcher (Hard of Hearing Member), Chantel Wiedmeyer (BEI Coordinator, ODHH).

2. Review and Approve June Q2 Agenda

David Seligman motions to change Katy Hagmeyer's presentation to 10:15a-11a because Mark Thompson canceled. BJ Ermenc seconds. PASSED

3. Review and Approve March Q1 Meeting Minutes

Leia Sparks motions to accept March Q1 meeting minutes. BJ Ermenc seconds. **PASSED**

4. 10:10-10:15- Jonathan Petermon overview of day, introduce Mark Thompson—

Mark Thompson was not able to attend the quarterly meeting. JP instead introduced Katy Hagmeyer

5. 10:15a-11a- Katy Hagmeyer present on Language Assessments

Communication Skills Assessment: Katy presented on Communication Skills Assessment for Individuals Who Are Deaf in Mental Health Settings, created in Alabama. It is a reliable tool to assess the functional communication skills of individuals with significant disabilities and to document specific communication needs and abilities to best match individuals with accessible and appropriate treatment. Katy is the only Certified Deaf person in Wisconsin that is able to administer the assessment.

10.1p-1:45p Chad Ludwig from Bridges Oregon present

Presentation by Bridges Oregon

- The 2014 Committee was resurrected to establish a gold standard of standardization.
- Emphasis on connections with senators/legislators who have disabilities or connections to them.
- Community-Based Needs Assessments (CBNA) involved community participation from development to research.
- Focus groups ranged from childcare centers to senior citizen homes.

- The state hosted a “survey day” with a CDI to assist community members in understanding survey questions.
- Over 900 responses were collected in 4 months, resulting in a final report of over 100 pages submitted to the legislature.
- Emphasis on obtaining Medicaid licensure to bill for services, requiring about 14 separate tests.

13.2:15- 2:45 Public Comment—

No members of the public in attendance.

14. 2:45-2:50 Updates from GCPD Liaison

- **BJ Ermenc, Vice-Chair**
 - Discussed Governors committee on People with Disabilities— 2024-2027 year plan. All councils are to keep in communication with the Governor. The GCPD has priorities that closely align with CDHH (Care giving, Mental Health, Transportation, Housing, Advocacy).

15. 2:50-3:00 ODHH Updates—BJ Ermenc motions to change this time slot to 11:15a-12p. David Seligman seconds. PASSED

- **Christopher Rawlings—**
 - Working with dementia/memory loss community in a show called The Rember Project. The show features an adult son with an aging mother and the mom is in fear of memory loss for herself. Will have a panel after the short show. Will start in September 2024 and going through April 2025. Locations TBA
 - Next year, Wellness Day will be April 12, 2025.
 - Interpreter position is open for ODHH to support staff and contracts within the state.
- **General and Policy updates, Council membership- Jason Anderson**
 - Jason shared that Nicole Everson resigned and that the Council will need assistance with recruiting a new Deaf/Blind representative.

• **BEI Updates- Chantel Wiedemeyer—**

- BEI tests turnaround time is about 60 days but they do have up to 90 days. Utah has a test available if BEI was on the outs again. Task Force will be put on hold and Steve Smart is tasked with mentoring/professional development and what interpreters need.

16. 3:00-4:00 Council Strategic Plan for 2024-2025- BJ Ermenc

Goal Setting Discussion:

- Leia and David Seligman discussed the difference between goal setting and strategic planning. David emphasized focusing on basic service statistics and developing a statewide communication plan for hearing tests.
 - ODHH to develop a campaign targeting senior citizens to identify hearing loss, with Katherine Rybak and Caroline Ludka as resources.
 - Suggestion to align council goals with state goals and allow flexible public comments during meetings.
 - Identify existing resources (TEPP, service fund, SSP) and address gaps.
 - Inquiry about caregiver training for Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals.
 - Eric to discuss demographics.
 - Council retreat planning to avoid “walking meeting” via email; use a Google survey for feedback and report to BJ Ermenc for the GCPD quarterly meeting.
 - Transportation is one of the GCPD’s top five priorities.
- David Seligman motion to create a subcommittee that works with ODHH staff on legislation to advise the committee. Lisa Stewart-Boettcher will head up the committee. Lisa Stewart-Boettcher seconds. PASSES (4 yay/1 nay (LS)/1 abstain KH)
 - BJ Ermenc motions for the creation of a survey to be send out to full council on priority issues for the council moving forward with Jason Anderson and Zachary Davenport’s guidance in development. David Seligman seconds. PASSED
 - David Seligman motion for more information regarding ODHH services and census (number of) using a report of how and who we serve the DHH/DB population in WI. Lisa Stewart-Boettcher second. PASSED
 - Cross council teleconference meeting—Lisa Stewart-Boettcher will attend going forward with Jason Anderson.

17. Adjournment—4:02 pm

Lisa Stewart- Boettcher motioned to adjourn. BJ Ermenc second. PASSED

The purpose of this meeting is to conduct the governmental business outlined in the above agenda. The Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is appointed by the Governor to advise him, the Department of Health Services and the Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing about issues and concerns affecting 500,000 people in Wisconsin who are deaf, hard of hearing, and/or deaf-blind.

The Council is administratively attached to the Department of Health Services. If you need an interpreter, alternate formats, or other accommodations to participate, please contact Jason P. Anderson at Jason.anderson@dhs.wisconsin.gov or 608-261-5997.