

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Instructions: [F-01922A](#)

Name of Governmental Body: Statutory Council on Blindness			Attending: Kate Coerper, Patty Zallar, Rhonda Staats, Patty Slaby, Jim Turk, Amber Mullett, Ann Sievert, Ana Detert, Kate Connell, and Sue Premo.
Date: 3/15/2019	Time Started: 9:00 a.m.	Time Ended: 2:57 p.m.	
Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel (4402 E Washington Avenue, Madison, WI 53704)			Presiding Officer: Kate Coerper
Minutes			

Action Items and Motion Items

Action Items

- Action Item:** Amber Mullett will send Ann Sievert links to the Ted Talks she discussed, so that they can be shared with the rest of the Council.
- Action Item:** Ana Detert will ask for the GCPD quarterly meeting schedule and see if Patty Zallar and Rhonda Staats would be able to co-serve as SCOB representatives.

Motion Items

- Motion Item:** A motion was made by Patty Slaby to appoint Patty Zallar and Rhonda Staats as co-representatives on GCPD. If GCPD doesn't allow it, then Patty Zallar will serve as the representative. The motion was seconded by Jim Turk. Motion carried.
- Motion Item:** A motion was made by Patty Zallar to schedule the September quarterly meeting at Options for Independent Living in Green Bay. The motion was seconded by Jim Turk. Motion carried.
- Motion Item:** A motion was made by Jim Turk to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Patty Slaby. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes

Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and introductions by: Kate Coerper, Chairperson

Council members present: Kate Coerper, Patty Zallar, Rhonda Staats, Patty Slaby, Jim Turk, and Amber Mullett.

Council members absent (excused*): Anthony Ricks*, and Kathleen Enders*.

DHS staff support present: Ann Sievert, Department of Health Services (DHS), Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources (BADR); Ana Detert, DHS, BADR; and Kate Connell, DHS, BADR.

Guests: Sue Premo.

Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order by Kate Coerper, Chairperson.

- The meeting was available via in-person attendance and via teleconference by calling 1-877-820-7831 and using the participant code of 988055.

Presentation on the Disability Rights Movement

Presenter: Amber Mullett, Director, Office for the Promotion of Independent Living, Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources

- Amber Mullett discussed the inception of the Division of Public Health Community of Practice discussions and the role that Chuck Warzecha, Deputy Administrator, and Karen McKeown, Division Administrator, played in organizing and supporting these efforts. Amber has led some of the discussions based on the presentation she developed about the disability rights movement.
- Amber Mullett will send Ann Sievert links to the Ted Talks she discussed, so that they can be shared with the rest of the Council. See Action Item 1.

Develop Council Ground Rules

- The Council had a collaboration conversation about Council ground rules and offered suggestions for the Council to adopt.
 - Give unconditional respect to self and others.
 - You can disagree without being disagreeable.
 - People should identify themselves when speaking and when somebody new enters the room it should be called out and introductions should be made.
 - There are no stupid people on this Council and no one should ever be made to feel like what they say or what they ask is stupid.
 - No question is a dumb question and no comment is a dumb comment.
 - Create space for everyone to participate.
 - Everyone is expected to come to meetings prepared.
 - All Council activities will be conducted in a way that is universally accessible, including materials.
- The rules will be made available for the full Council to reference and they can touch base at each meeting to see if anything needs to be added or changed.

Public Comment on Issues Affecting Wisconsin Residents who are Blind and Visually Impaired

- There were no public comments made by members of the public.

Icebreaker Activities

- Council members and staff support took turns going around the meeting room and sharing one thing they would like to see happen on the Council this year.
 - Have meaningful conversations with policymakers on issues relating to blind people – make them be in the room.
 - Historically there has never been an OBVI liaison, so having the Council participate in defining Kate Connell's role would be helpful.
 - Continued facilitation of the awareness to the public of how blind and visually impaired people are just as valid as those without disabilities.
 - Meet face-to-face with policymakers to see some movement towards change (especially in transportation).
 - Work to eliminate artificial barriers. What can the Council do to get more blind and visually impaired people employed?
 - Educate the public and get information to the aging and disability resource centers (ADRCs).
 - It was suggested that the Council train ADRC staff on vision loss.
 - Independent living centers (ILCs) do a lot of the same things that ADRCs do and many of the staff have disabilities.
 - Identify one or two achievable outcomes that the Council would like to accomplish and spend some time getting feedback from people around the state who are blind and visually impaired (e.g. a survey).
 - Advocate for everything related to the state budget. This is a really important time to be advocating since the budget hasn't been passed yet.

Strategic Discussion:

- What should the Council's priorities be?
 - Transportation – it impacts so many other aspects of a person's life other than just getting from one destination to another.
 - Isolation
 - Medical
 - Persistence is essential. Council members are encouraged to attend Wisconsin Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired legislative days on April 9.

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- When conversing with policymakers, tell your personal story.
 - Put the priorities into dollars and cents. That may be the only way to really break through legislators.
 - Review and partner with other organizations with similar transportation goals.
 - Have each member reach out to their legislators regarding transportation issues for people with disabilities.
 - Support money in the budget to provide accessible transportation.
 - Contact fiscal bureau about the monetary impact of the lack of transportation for people with disabilities.
 - Cost of medical interventions for people who don't have access to doctors before an issue gets worse.
 - What information do we need to inform our decision?
 - How could the Council reach out to people in rural areas about their transportation needs?
 - Program through Uber or Lyft that could reimburse a person for providing transportation. (The person who needs transportation would be able to choose their drive (for safety reasons).)
 - Is there a legislator particularly interested in the issue of transportation?

Working Lunch: Overview of the Council of the Blind Legislative Days

Presenters: Rhonda Staats, Council Member; and Patty Zallar, Council Member

State Health Assessment Community Conversation

Presenter: Susan Uttech, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services

- The State Health Plan is a mandate by state law every ten years. The Division of Public Health recently became accredited, which means that State Health Assessment (SHA) and State health Plan must be done every five years. Wisconsin was the 32nd state health department to get accredited.
- The Division is trying to make sure that the SHA includes more qualitative data from stakeholders and the community. Using Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) assessment as a framework for the SHA.
- SHA will answer five questions:
 - What health conditions exist in the community? Why do they exist?
 - What assets are available in the community?
 - What is the quality of life in the community?
 - What are the strengths and weaknesses of the public health system?

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- What forces affect how to take action?
 - The community conversations are being conducted to bring qualitative data into the discussion of what themes and topics the Division should focus on in the State Health Plan.

Discuss Dates and Agenda Items for the Next Scheduled Quarterly Meeting

- June Quarterly Meeting
 - Discuss by-laws.
 - OPIL overview by Amber Mullett.
 - Discuss transportation issues.
 - Rhonda Staats offered to reach out to the transportation liaison and invite her to the quarterly meeting.
 - Invite another council to attend the meeting and introduce themselves and talk about who they are and what they do.
 - Report from Jim Turk about the National Federation of the Blind. Jim Turk will ask John Fritz about calling into the meeting to provide a report out.
 - Talk with Sue Premo about possible activities at Options for Independent Living for the September quarterly meeting.
- A member from SCOB will need to be appointed to the Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities (GCPD) and serve as the SCOB representative to that Committee.
 - A motion was made by Patty Slaby to appoint Patty Zallar and Rhonda Staats as co-representatives on GCPD. If GCPD doesn't allow it, then Patty Zallar will serve as the representative. The motion was seconded by Jim Turk. Motion carried. See Motion Item 1.
 - Ana Detert will ask for the GCPD quarterly meeting schedule and see if Patty Zallar and Rhonda Staats would be able to co-serve as SCOB representatives. See Action Item 2.
- September Quarterly Meeting
 - Sue Premo offered to host the September quarterly meeting at Options for Independent Living.
 - General consensus is that it's a good idea to schedule quarterly meetings throughout the state. It's a good way to incorporate people from other parts of the state who aren't members, but would be interested in attending and learning about the Council.
 - A motion was made by Patty Zallar to schedule the September quarterly meeting at Options for Independent Living in Green Bay. The motion was seconded by Jim Turk. Motion carried. See Motion Item 2.
 - Sue Premo reserved the conference room on September 12 and 13 at Options for Independent Living.

Adjourn

- A motion was made by Jim Turk to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Patty Slaby. Motion carried. See Motion Item 3.

The meeting adjourned at 2:57 PM

Prepared by: Ana Detert on 4/30/2019.

These minutes were approved by the Statutory Council on Blindness on: 6/13/2019