

State of Wisconsin

Assistive Technology Advisory Council

1 West Wilson Street, Room 551
Post Office Box 2659
Madison, WI 53701-2659

Telephone: 608-514-2513

Fax: 608-267-3203

[AT Council Website](#)

Assistive Technology Advisory Council Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

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

Join via [Zoom](#):

161 820 9382

Join via Phone:

Phone: 1-669 254 5252

Meeting ID: 161 820 9382

Approved February 23, 2022

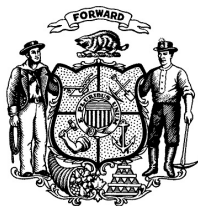
Action Items and Motion

A. Action Items

- **Action Item:** Jenesis Lindbo requested that an Executive Committee be held prior to the next AT Council Meeting.

B. Motion Items

1. **Motion Item:** Mike Hipple made a motion to approve the November 10, 2021 ATAC quarterly meeting agenda. Lisa Woods seconded the motion with the modification that Chris Patterson would be presenting on the Technology First initiative. Motion carried.
2. **Motion Item:** Shar Brunes made a motion to approve the August 4, 2021 ATAC quarterly meeting minutes as amended, to reflect that Andrea Bertone was excused absent. Alison Peetz seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. **Motion Item:** Jim Denham made a motion to elect Jenesis Lindbo as Chairperson and Cassie Frost seconded that motion. Motion carried.
4. **Motion Item:** Jenesis Lindbo made a motion to elect Jason Ostrowski as Vice Chairperson. Jim Denham seconded that motion. Motion carried.
5. **Motion Item:** Shar Brunes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Hipple seconded the motion. Motion carried.



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C. Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions by Jenesis Lindbo, Chairperson

Council Members Present: Alison, Peetz; Andrea Bertone; Cassie Frost; Jason Ostrowski; Jessica Holton; Jenesis Lindbo; Jim Denham; Mike Hipple; Shar Brunes

Council Members Absent (excused*): Scott Gilbertson; Lisa Woods; Rick Ziller

Guests Present: Abygail Marx, Waisman; Amanda Kellenberger; Brianne Moon, SVRI; Calvin Options, Options for Independent Living; Cathryn Scott, IRIS; Cindi Pichler, Independence First; Geri Draz, Inclusa; Jenn Seale; Waisman Center; Ramsey Lee; Lawrence Brown; Josh Theis, Options for Independent Living; Pauline Lorenz, Society's Assets; Tyler Wilcox, ILCW; Billy Mauldin; Public Service Commission; Chris Patterson, Night Owl; Lisa Pugh; ARC

DHS Staff Support Present: Laura Plummer, Department of Health Services (DHS), Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources (BADR); Lisa Sobczyk, DHS, BADR; Monica Smith, DHS, BADR; Ashley Walker, DHS, BADR; Katherine Cullinan, DHS, BADR.

II. Meeting Called to Order by Jenesis Lindbo, Chairperson at 9:07 A.M.

The meeting was available by phone at 1-669-254-5252 or by [Zoom](#); meeting ID161 820 9382

III. Review and Approve the November 10, 2021 Quarterly Meeting Agenda

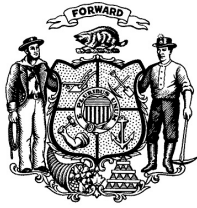
Mike Hipple made a motion to approve the November 10, 2021 ATAC quarterly meeting agenda. Lisa Woods seconded the motion with the modification that Chris Patterson would be presenting on the Technology First initiative. Motion carried. **See Motion Item 1.**

IV. Review and Approve the August 4, 2021 Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Shar Brunes made a motion to approve the August 4, 2021 ATAC quarterly meeting minute as amended to reflect that Andrea Bertone was excused absent. Alison Peetz seconded the motion. Motion carried. **See Motion Item 2.**

V. Public Comments Public Comment on Issues Affecting Assistive Technology Users or on the [State Plan on Assistive Technology, 2018-2020](#)

- Ramsey Lee provided public comment regarding the Assistive Technology (AT) Survey. He liked the survey and would like to see training or more awareness of Funding for AT. Many people do not know about funding and what is available to support AT.
- Ramsey Lee had an additional public comment, thanking everyone who attended the Self Determination Conference. Thank you to AT Council for



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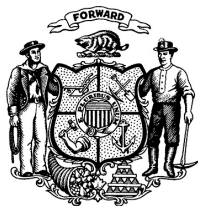
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hosting a booth and congratulation to Mike Hipple for being awarded the Die Hard Award at the conference.

VI. Assistive Technology Program Updates

- Jenesis Lindbo shared that there are no overall updates aside from being busy with many referrals.
- Jason Ostrowski has begun working at Independence First as an intake and referral coordinator.
- Jim Denham: WI Access Specialist for WCBVI shared information about the National Library Service for the Blind (NLS) and the Wisconsin Talking Book program. Refreshable Braille devices are being distributed as an option and this should roll out in 2022.
- Alison Peetz shared that her son has a disability and now that he is 18 they are navigating long-term care services and benefits.
- Cassie Frost shared that the school year is getting going and educators are working out the details of the return to in person instruction. She has been involved with the DPI AT Forward Community of Practice and a new micro credentialing program has been launched.
- Andrea Bertone from the Department of Public discussed the allocation of CARES Act funding that DPI received last year and this year. Daniel Parker from DPI has been very supportive in the area of access to AT and services. DPI is reviewing the sustainability of the AT Forward Project beyond the federal funding.
- Mike Hipple shared that the Wisconsin Augmentative and Alternative Communication Network (WI AAC Network) is remaining active through email and social media. AAC Awareness month was in October. Chatter Matter camp registration going well. Mike is also on the National Council for Exceptional Children.
- Shar Brunes from Access to Independence and representing the Wisconsin Coalition of Independent Living Centers (WCILC) shared that long-term care agencies had been requesting information on what credentials the ILC staff that conduct home modification assessments had. Staff have a variety of backgrounds so a self-certification training program was held for ILC staff. The WCILC goal is to have two or three staff self-certified at each ILC to conduct home modification assessments.
- Maureen Ryan from WCILC announced that she is retiring early 2022 and that the new WCILC Director will be Jason Glozier. Prior to accepting this position, Jason has been serving as the ADA Coordinator for the City of Madison.



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- Jessica Holten from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) shared that referrals continue to be lower than typical and it is a nationwide trend. DVR applied for and received a five-year grant which began in October 2021. The total award is 14 million and Wisconsin is one of seven states to be funded. Jessica is the project manager and will share additional information at the next meeting.
- Jennifer Seale from Waisman Center introduced herself as the new AAC Program Coordinator for their agency.

VII. WisTech Program Updates (Annual Training Survey, Quarterly reporting, 2022 meeting dates, State Plan development, and general updates)

- WisTech was provided several photos from our subcontractors highlighting the areas of Device Reuse, Loan, and Demonstration. These were shared with the AT Council and will be included in the Annual Program Report.
- Training Results from the four quarterly WisTech trainings were discussed. Feedback was collected from each and both Certified Rehabilitation Counselor credits (CRC) and Continuing Education Units (CEU) credits issued to those that requested them.
- The 2022 Training survey has gone out and will close on December 10th. AT Council members were encouraged to complete the survey and share with their teams and stakeholders. The survey is used to identify training needs for Wisconsin during the upcoming year.
- The Data Dashboard for loans, demonstrations, and device reuse was reviewed
- SVRI, at UW Stout, has offered the AT devices that are no longer needed for their AT Program to WisTech for ReUse. Given the proximity to the Center for Independent Living, these devices have been picked up by that agency and they will compile an inventory to share with the network. These devices will be available for donation. The wheelchairs have been picked up by the Department of Corrections for refurbishment at the Redgranite correctional facility.
- The meeting dates for 2022 were discussed and selected. These dates are: February 23, 2022, May 4, 2022, August 24, 2022, and November 9, 2022. Meetings will remain virtual and will be held from 9am until Noon via Zoom.
- State Plan committee will be meeting beginning January 2022

VIII. Assistive Technology Advisory Council Member Appointments, and Vacancies

- Jim Denham made a motion to elect Jenesis Lindbo as Chairperson and Cassie Frost seconded that motion. Motion carried. **See Motion Item 3.**



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- Jenesis Lindbo made a motion to elect Jason Ostrowski as Vice Chairperson. Jim Denham seconded that motion. Motion carried. **See Motion Item 4.**
- Jenesis Lindbo requested that an Executive Committee be held prior to the next AT Council Meeting. See Action Item 1.

IX. Health Equity; Katherine Cullinan, DHS

A presentation on the Health Equity work that Katherine Cullinan has been conducting within the Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources as well as for DHS as a whole was provided to the AT Council.

X. Technology First Coalition; Lisa Pugh, The ARC Wisconsin and Chris Patterson, Night Owl

A presentation on the Technology First Coalition efforts around ensuring access to technology for individuals was provided to the AT Council.

XI. Adjourn

Shar Brunes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Hipple seconded the motion. Motion carried. **See Motion Item 5.**