



State of Wisconsin

Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities

1 WEST WILSON STREET,
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POST OFFICE BOX 2659
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Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities (GCPD) Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee Teleconference Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 2, 2023
10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

Approved March 2, 2023.

Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee Action and Motion Items

A. Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee Action Items

1. **Action Item:** Ben Barret will share the policy recommendation from the Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee of creating a state ADA compliance position at GCPD's Executive Committee meeting on March 2, 2023.
2. **Action Item:** Lisa Sobczyk will ask Laura Plummer to present on the Reauthorization of the Assistive Technology Act at the March Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee meeting.

B. Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee Motion Items

1. **Motion Item:** David Morstad made a motion to approve the February Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee meeting agenda. Ramsey Lee seconded the motion. Motion carried.
2. **Motion Item:** Ramsey Lee made a motion to approve the January Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee meeting minutes. David Morstad seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. **Motion Item:** David Morstad made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ben Barrett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions:

Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee members present: Katherine Schneider; David Morstad; Ben Barrett; and Ramsey Lee.

Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee members absent (excused*): John Hartman.



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DHS support staff present: Karen Potnek, Department of Health Services (DHS), Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources (BADR) and Lisa Sobczyk, DHS, BADR.

II. Katherine Schneider, Sub-Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

The meeting was made available via phone at (669) 254-5252 with Meeting ID: 161 038 6323 and via [Zoom](#).

III. Review and Approve February 2, 2023, Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee Meeting Agenda

- David Morstad made a motion to approve the February Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee meeting agenda. Ramsey Lee seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 1.

IV. Review and Approve January 5, 2023, Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes

- Ramsey Lee made a motion to approve the January Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee 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 was received.

VI. Discuss Opportunities and Access Section of the GCPD 2022-2024 Work Plan

- ***Discuss the Recommendation for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator Position within Government***
 - The Sub-Committee discussed legislative and state budget strategies for getting an ADA position to address digital and physical accessibility to state government websites, buildings, programs, and services.



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- The Sub-Committee discussed an ADA compliance position within state government. Discussion was had about these positions existed in other states, are often appointed positions, and housed within the state Department of Administration or Department of Justice.
 - Ben Barret will share the policy recommendation from the Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee of creating a state ADA compliance position at GCPD's Executive Committee meeting on March 2, 2023. See Action Item 1.
 - The Sub-Committee discussed the possibility of working with other disability coalitions, committees, and councils to advocate for these positions.
- ***Discuss and Review Status of Disability Related Civil Rights Complaints Routing Through Wisconsin Attorney General***
 - Lisa Sobczyk and Margaret Kristan, GCPD Chair met with the Attorney General's office on January 19, 2023, to learn about the history of LRB-2121/1, whether the Attorney General planned to reintroduce the bill, and discuss the impact it could have for people with disabilities.
 - Based on the meeting with the Attorney General's Office racial inequities was the reason for the bill being introduced. However, there is a benefit to explaining the benefits to people with disabilities.
 - The Department of Justice will follow-up with the Attorney General's Office to see if they plan to reintroduce the bill. If the bill is reintroduced, the Department of Justice will work with GCPD on education and outreach on how the bill would benefit people with disabilities.



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VII. Discuss Aging Advocacy and Assistive Technology (AT) Act Funding Initiative

- The Sub-Committee discussed recently passed federal legislation which would require the State Assistive Technology Program to work with Older Americans Act programs. The Sub-Committee discussed how that may allow more older adults to gain access to assistive technology.
- Lisa Sobczyk shared with the Sub-Committee that the Assistive Technology Act was reauthorized in January 2023 and expanded required membership on the State Assistive Technology Advisory Council and focuses more on document and digital accessibility. As a result, there may be opportunities to partner with the State Assistive Technology Council in advancing some of the policy recommendations being proposed by GCPD's Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee.
 - Lisa Sobczyk will ask Laura Plummer to present on the Reauthorization of the Assistive Technology Act at the March Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee meeting. See Action Item 2.

VIII. Draft March 2, 2023, Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee Meeting Agenda

- The Sub-Committee discussed the agenda for the next Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee meeting on March 2, 2023:
 - Review and Approve March 2, 2023, Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee Meeting Agenda
 - Review and Approve February 2, 2023, Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
 - Public Comment on Issues Affecting People with Disabilities (10:10 A.M. – 10:15 A.M.)
 - Presentation on the Reauthorization of the Assistive Technology Act



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- Discuss Opportunities and Access Section of the GCPD 2022-2024 Work Plan
 - Follow-up and Next Steps on the Status of Recommendation for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator Position within Government
 - Follow-up and Next Steps on the Status of Recommendation for Disability Related Civil Rights Complaints Routing Through Wisconsin Attorney General
- Identify Partners, Stakeholders and Other Committee Members to Invite to Opportunities and Access Subcommittee Meetings for Policy Discussions
- Draft April 6, 2023, Opportunities and Access Sub-Committee Meeting Agenda
- Adjourn

IX. Adjourn

- David Morstad made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ben Barrett seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 3.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 A.M.