

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC) COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: August 10, 2020

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: VIRTUAL

Members Present: Susan Locke, Harold Singstock, Claire Steger, Pete Christianson, Rob Paterson, Tanisha Alvarado, Jan Olson, Elizabeth Jones, Don Hansen, Michael Norton and Nicole Neuhoff

Members Excused: Paul Janty, Kate Pfaendtner

Staff Present: Beth Roberts, Brian Nagler, Bryn Ceman and Julienne Gohde

Others Present: Jennifer Neugart, Alana Erickson

Beth Roberts called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

1. Public Comments:

No public comments given at this time.

2. Approve Minutes of the July 13, 2020 ADRC Meetings:

Mike Norton moved to approve the minutes as written, Susan Locke seconded the motion. Approved and passed by all.

3. Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities- Tanisha:

Jennifer Neugart is the grass roots community organizer for the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (Wi BPDD). This board was enacted through legislation as part of the Developmental Disabilities Act. The Wi BPDD council office is based in Madison but their focus is statewide and try to reach all corners of the state. Their goal is advocacy for people with disabilities, capacity building and systems change within the State. They try to engage people with disabilities to understand what is going on in the community and the most pressing needs. They are currently in the process of gathering information for the state. Employment and transportation are two of the top topics. They are always looking for innovative projects. They are also making sure that people with disabilities and their family's voices are part of policy decisions. Wisconsin is an employment first state, much

through the work of DD staff working on policy changes. Wi BPDD is also an independent voice for the governor about the needs of people with disabilities.

They have 9 core values that shape their work:

- Disability is a natural part of the human experience and does not diminish people's rights to live independently, exercise control over their lives and fully participate in and contribute to their communities.
- People with disabilities are people first and must be treated with dignity and respect. This includes the right to be free of abuse and neglect.
- People with disabilities are entitled to the right to free speech. The ability to communicate, with assistance as needed, must be available to everyone.
- People with disabilities have the right to advocate for themselves on every level of the system, from individual services to the state budget to federal laws that affect their lives.
- Self-determination is essential to full citizenship. People with disabilities must have the freedom to make informed decisions about how they want to live their lives and receive supports.
- People with disabilities must be able to enjoy the full mobility and accessibility that enables active participation in community life.
- People with disabilities need real friendships with a variety of friends, not just paid service workers.
- Schools and communities are stronger when they are inclusive.
- Every person with a disability deserves the right to work in the community at competitive wages, with benefits and the supports necessary to be successful.

A few of the existing projects include the Partners in Policy making program. This is a program that is for Adults with developmental disabilities and family members of children and youth with developmental disabilities (ages birth to 21) and will train them how to advocate for policies and initiatives that support full participation and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities. Some of the topics covered in this training are: How does a bill become a law, how do you talk to your legislature, the budget cycle, what is it like to testify at a hearing, media strategies, what does true inclusive education look like, integrated employment, supported living in the community and more. Program was in person in Madison over 6 weekends however it will now be virtual viz ZOOM over 10 shorter sessions, not only due to COVID but due to traveling constraints that the in person puts on participants. Applications are due September 11, 2020. Information is on their website and their social media sites.

SPARKS grants- These are available for innovative projects for anything happening in your community and people with disabilities are involved. They typically range from \$500-\$5000. They are looking for a community issue that is being solved by the community with specific emphasis on voting, transportation and COVID.

Self Determination Conference is at the end of October. This year it will be virtual with interactive activities. Free to attend, looking for exhibitors.

Supportive Decision Making: There is a toolkit on their website. This is a great opportunity for someone to receive support on making decisions in everyday life.

Voting in partnership with Disability Rights Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Disability Vote coalition- their goal is to get people with disabilities registered, and know their rights and get out to vote.

The Wisconsin BPDD board has an E newsletter to sign up for that comes out once per month. They will do trainings on a variety of voting topics.

Disability Advocacy Day- March 2021...will probably will be online...people come together in the morning to learn about policy issues and then go meet with legislators in the afternoons.

Employment projects are also occurring. More information is available on their website.

4. 2021 Budget- Beth

The budget was submitted to the Human Services board in July. It was passed and now goes on to the Personnel and Finance board. The Outreach budget was lowered a little bit as it hasn't been used as what we had allotted in the past. Training costs also went down since so much of training is done virtually at this point. The 2021 budget has not been completely approved yet but has made it through the first few steps. The budget has a 0% increase.

5. Zoom training follow up- Beth

There are many different functions that can be performed on Zoom. Beth was questioning if this group would be interested in a Zoom training at the beginning of the next meeting. Mike Norton thinks that this would be a great help and very appreciative of it. Elizabeth Jones would be more than happy to put together easy "How-To" handouts, as this is what she does for her job! Elizabeth will have the handouts to Beth by September 4th. Beth also mentioned that the Senior Center received a grant for trainings on new technology. She will ask if they could make a recording that could be shared.

6. Reports:

a. Manager Report – Beth Roberts

There are Rickshaw ride opportunities for people with dementia at a park in Neenah being arranged. The ADRC is also looking at another play titled "Grandpa and Lucy" (and a conversation that follows it) that helps the younger ones better understand dementia. They are working with the production company right now.

b. Complaints / Grievances – Beth Roberts

No complaints or grievances at this time.

7. **“Community Beat” – Sharing of Compliments / Complaints from Community, Consumers, Providers – Committee Members**

Tanisha Alvarado thanks the committee for allowing her the opportunity to have a speaker present on developmental disabilities today. She also noted that the ARC is starting their own type of Partners in Policy making class also.

Brian Nagler reported that this month they have had 38 IRIS and Family Care enrollments. Fifty people had Long term functional screens completed last month. Things are picking up and are more usual and customary in their work. There are more immediate needs being met for food and rent, however things are moving more towards “normal”.

Pete Christianson shared that the Lion’s Medical Locker is setting new hours... 9:00-11:00 am on Tuesdays and Saturdays as of September 1st.

Mike Norton shared the masks that Winnebago County has provided us, and shared that Beth should be contacted if anyone needs masks. Secondly, Mike is wondering if the ADRC is receiving calls about evictions, as ADVOCAP is having a meeting about mortgage and rent assistance. Bryn stated that a few phone calls that have come in. Will pull numbers together and get them out to the committee soon.

Bryn Ceman reported an update from the Omro Community Center. They were in fact closed for the most part since March 18th and haven’t yet decided on a reopening date. What they now are continuing to do is answer calls and help the community as much as possible. The Community Center is providing some rental space to very small groups of people (for things like AA meetings, virtual church services).

APS staff have experienced an increase in workload with 64 court actions – either guardianships and/or protective placements. The average age of the individual is 62 years old. I’d like to provide a quick note of appreciation to Kate who has graciously offered to provide volunteer guardianship services. We know there is a need in this area so thank you Kate! Some more recent APS cases were due to the primary or sole caregiver being unavailable for the memory impairments or other like circumstances.

In Outreach news, they hope to have a video tour of our ADRC offices in Neenah and Oshkosh available mid-September. We hope to have the tours in Hmong, Spanish as well as English.

The disability benefits specialists have also seen an increase in referrals. There is no clear cause for the increase; likely the increase in numbers are due to outreach activities such as the newsletter, much more frequent FB postings, and virtual services such as the “Welcome to Medicare” presentations. The Elder Benefits Specialists are preparing for Open Enrollment. This is a complete unknown that they are preparing for. Will folks be more in need to review plans b/c money is tight or will there be less need for EBS services b/c people may just stick with their current plan vs. making an appointment???

Aging plan- the Aging Plan is the County's 3-year plan establishing goals specific to support our residents 60+ in areas of evidence-based health promotions classes, the nutrition program, grandparents raising grand children's programs, dementia care specialist efforts as well as outreach goals. Even with COVID we have achieved nearly all the targeted goals according to the timeline. Bryn will provide a full detail of our progress during September's ADRC Committee mtg.

Alana Erickson- Community testing brought to our area over the weekend and that is taking a lot of time and energy. Working with the schools and universities on how to reopen. Setting up a mini health dept with the UWO nursing department.

Rob Paterson shared that there is a primary voting tomorrow, can't cross party lines.

8. Next Meeting – September 14, 2020 VIRTUAL

Discussion was held on as if there should be a meeting in September, as there was not one scheduled due to the conference...which is now cancelled. A decision was made to have a meeting with a Zoom training and a report from Bryn on the Aging Plan reports.

With no further business, Beth Roberts adjourned the meeting at 4:09 p.m.
Susan Locke accepted the motion and Mike Norton seconded it.

Respectfully submitted: Julienne Gohde, Recorder