Madison, WI 53714

Phone: (608) 575-9293

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Independent Living Council of Wisconsin (ILCW) Membership Committee Teleconference Meeting

September 11, 2023

2:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

APPROVED NOVEMBER 6, 2023

Action Items and Motion Items

A. ILCW Membership Committee Action Items

- **1. Action Item:** ILCW Program Coordinator will inform Mary Jane Grande that she will be recommended for appointment to ILCW as soon as there is a vacancy on the Council.
- **2. Action Item:** ILCW Program Coordinator will contact Thysee to request information about designing and printing new brochures for the Wisconsin Independent Living Network (WILN).
- **3. Action Item:** ILCW Program Coordinator will print the current Wisconsin Independent Living Network (WILN) Brochure and other marketing materials for use at the October 17-18, 2023 Self-Determination conference.

B. ILCW Membership Committee Motion Items

- **1. Motion Item:** Eric Riskus made a motion to approve the September 11, 2023 ILCW Membership Committee meeting agenda. LySandra Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- **2. Motion Item:** Eric Riskus made a motion to approve the August 7, 2023 ILCW Membership Committee meeting minutes. LySandra Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- **3. Motion Item:** LySandra Owens made a motion to recommend Julie Bergan for appointment to ILCW by the Governor's Office of Appointments. Eric Riskus seconded the motion. ILCW voted unanimously to recommend Julie Bergan for appointment to ILCW.

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- **4. Motion Item:** LySandra Owens made a motion to recommend Mary Jane Grande for appointment to ILCW by the Governor's Office of Appointments. Eric Riskus seconded the motion. ILCW voted unanimously to recommend Mary Jane Grande for appointment to ILCW.
- **5. Motion Item:** Eric Riskus made a motion to adjourn the September 11, 2023 ILCW Membership Committee meeting. LySandra Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions, Jason Endres, ILCW Chair

ILCW Membership Committee Members Present: Jason Endres, ILCW Chair; LySandra Owens, ILCW Treasurer; and Eric Riskus, ILCW Vice Chair-Elect.

ILCW Membership Committee Members Absent; Excused (*): Randi Johnson*, ILCW Secretary.

Guest(s): Julie Bergan; and Mary Jane Grande.

ILCW Staff: Tyler Wilcox, ILCW Program Coordinator

II. The meeting was called to order at 2:07 P.M. by Jason Endres, ILCW Chair

 The meeting was available via teleconference by calling (312) 626-6799 with meeting ID: 853 9190 3859. The meeting was also available via Zoom.

III. Review and Approve September 11, 2023 ILCW Membership Committee Meeting Agenda

• Eric Riskus made a motion to approve the September 11, 2023 ILCW Membership Committee meeting agenda. LySandra Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 1.

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IV. Review and Approve August 7, 2023 ILCW Membership Committee Meeting Minutes

 Eric Riskus made a motion to approve the August 7, 2023 ILCW
 Membership Committee meeting minutes. LySandra Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 2.

V. Public Comment on the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) or Related to Independent Living Centers and Services

- Link to SPIL (https://www.livebinders.com/media/get/MjIxMjk0OTI=)
- No public comment received; comment period closed at 2:22 P.M.

VI. Discuss New Member Applications

- Jule Bergan provided a brief introduction to the committee.
 - Julie Bergan moved from Illinois to Wisconsin a few years ago. She worked as a pediatric occupational therapist. She had a spinal cord injury two years ago, which resulted in paralysis. Julie uses a wheelchair and has some difficulty writing and speaking due to the injury. Julie is newly disabled and is collecting benefits. She lives in Twin Lakes, Wisconsin. This is Society's Assets' service area.
 - Julie has not had much interaction with Society's Assets but would like to become more involved in the Independent Living movement.
 - Julie has worked with children and youth in a clinical setting; this is a perspective that ILCW is currently lacking.
 - LySandra Owens made a motion to recommend Julie Bergan for appointment to ILCW by the Governor's Office of Appointments. Eric Riskus seconded the motion. ILCW voted unanimously to recommend Julie Bergan for appointment to ILCW. See Motion Item 2.

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Mary Jane Grande provided a brief introduction to the Committee.

- Mary Jane Grande is on indiGO's board and lives in Ashland, Wisconsin. She has been involved with the center for the past 15 years. Mary Jane is also in involved in several local agencies and organizations including the housing authority, Genesis 1900, and others. She is part-native with the Bad River tribal community.
 - Mary Jane Grande worked with indiGO during a federal demonstration project grant that provided funding for ILCs to provide Independent Living services and advocacy to tribal communities.
 - Mary Jane Grande has worked with both the Bad River and Red Cliff tribal communities.
 - Mary Jane Grande has a definite interest in moving the Council forward, and ensuring ILCW is fiscally responsible.
- LySandra Owens made a motion to recommend Mary Jane Grande for appointment to ILCW by the Governor's Office of Appointments. Eric Riskus seconded the motion. ILCW voted unanimously to recommend Mary Jane Grande for appointment to ILCW. See Motion Item 3.
 - With Julie Bergan's appointment, ILCW will be full. Mary Jane Grande is aware of this; ILCW will hold her recommendation until such time that there is a vacancy on the council.
 - ILCW Program Coordinator will inform Mary Jane Grande that she will be recommended for appointment to ILCW as soon as there is a vacancy on the Council. See Action Item 1.

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VII. Discuss Development of Brochures for the Wisconsin Independent Living Network (WILN) for Distribution at Conferences, Expos, and Other Similar Events

- The current WILN brochure was developed by ILCW Program Coordinator and needs to be updated.
 - There is too much text on the current brochure. The information may not be accessible to some persons with certain disabilities.
 - Each of the Independent Living Centers (ILC) is represented with their logos. These are not accessible for persons using screen readers. However, logos are better for persons with dyslexia and other disabilities.
 - Rather than full contact information for each of the centers, it may be possible to give conference attendees both the WILN brochure and the brochure for the ILC that services the area in which they live.
 - Only the 5-core services should be listed in the section about which services are provided because other services may not be offered at all 8 ILCs.
 - Thysee designed WILN's other marketing materials. To keep branding consistent, they should be contacted for help designing and printing new brochures.
 - ILCW Program Coordinator will contact Thysee to request information about designing and printing new brochures for the Wisconsin Independent Living Network (WILN). See Action Item 2.
- There may not be enough time to get a new brochure designed and printed before the Self-Determination conference.
 - ILCW Program Coordinator will print the current Wisconsin Independent Living Network (WILN) Brochure and other marketing materials for use at the October 17-18, 2023 Self-Determination conference. See Action Item 3.

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VIII. Discuss ILCW Conference Attendance

 This discussion was tabled until the next Membership Committee Meeting.

IX. Review and Discuss Outreach Efforts

- Because the council is full, ILCW Program Coordinator has put outreach to tribal communities on hold.
 - ILCW Program Coordinator will request that ILCW's tribal community members assist him in coordinating outreach efforts.
- LySandra Owens has spoken with several persons in the African American community.
 - Several persons have indicated that they wish to have a more active role in the movement than those typically have as council members.
 - Because the council is full, it will be better to discuss the function of the council and provide information about the IL Movement in Wisconsin.
 - Persons who wish to have a more active role may be amenable to volunteering time to pass out brochures, provide information to their communities, and other tasks which would allow them to actively engage with others.
 - It may be a good idea to begin building a volunteer list so ILCW can reach out to people when there are activities that could be helpful for the council, but do not necessarily need council member involvement.
 - ILCW Meetings are public, and each meeting has time for public comment. Joining meetings as a guest would be a good way for people to get to know the council. They may also join when there is vacancy and/or a need for their membership.

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- Those who wish to have a more active role in directing the IL Movement may also be able to join the SPIL committee during the current 2024-2027 development cycle. More input from community members would be valuable during SPIL development.
- Following the appointment of Julie Bergan, ILCW will have a full council.
 - ILCW's size is dictated by the ILCW By-Laws. It would be useful to investigate changing this to allow for more people to sit on the council.
 - There is no federal restriction with regards to the number of persons who can sit on a Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC).
 - Administration on Community Living (ACL) has indicated that a council must be able to function with one person because a SILC must exist in every state.
 - ILCW former program officer, Regina Blye, found language regarding membership numbers in previous versions of ILCW's by-laws confusing. ILCW will have to work with ACL to ensure that the by-laws are both appropriate for the council and do not violate the 1973 Rehabilitation Act.

X. Adjourn

 Eric Riskus made a motion to adjourn the September 11, 2023 ILCW Membership Committee meeting. LySandra Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 5.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:18 P.M.