

**MINUTES**  
**INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL OF WISCONSIN**  
**FEBRUARY QUARTERLY MEETING**

**February 4, 2008**

*Madison, WI*

**Members Present:**

Evelyn Buckle, Secretary  
Mary Frances Troudt, *ex-officio* (DoC)  
Joy Combs  
Teddy Pyke

Charlene Dwyer, *ex-officio* (DWD-DVR)  
Diane Ryan  
Bobbie Beson-Crone, *ex-officio* (DOT)

**Members Absent:**

Patricia Lerch (Sec. 121 VR)  
Kathie Knoble-Iverson, Chairperson  
Sinikka Santala, *ex-officio* (DHFS)

Bruce Huseboe, Vice-Chairperson  
Charles Benner  
Leonila Vega

**Others Present:**

Mike Bachhuber, Exec. Director  
William Parke-Sutherland, Adm. Assistant  
Maureen Ryan, Exec Dir. WCILC

**Call to Order** – There being no quorum, Evelyn Buckles, acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon as a meeting of the committee of the whole.

**WCILC Report** – Maureen Ryan gave an office update. She reminded the committee of staff work over the past couple of years to explore sharing space and resources between Access to Independence, WCILC and ILCW. Under current conditions that possibility seems unlikely.

Maureen also gave an update about various WCILC activities including pending and approved grants and contracts, LTC, IL Legislative Days, and their upcoming strategic planning retreat.

**DVR Report** – Charlene Dwyer explained that DVR is reaching its saturation point for individual plans. They might need to expand the waiting period for individuals with non-significant disabilities (Category 3). DVR is going to determine whether or not they will have a short waiting list for category 2 (significant disabilities) within the next two weeks. DVR will continue to serve as many people as possible and has to prioritize persons in category 1 (most-significant disability). Currently individuals in category 1 have no wait period.

There was also a question as to whether or not DVR pays for schooling or training as part of vocational rehabilitation. Ms. Dwyer answered that DVR funds individual plans, which could include school tuition or training programs. DVR works with

other funding sources (e.g. family contribution, federal or state aid, and scholarships) in an effort to meet the goals outlined in consumers' individual plans.

**Transportation Report** – Bobbie Beson-Crone reported on the DoT initiatives, including New Freedom, initiative to increase transportation for persons with disabilities in rural areas (one year grant), STRAP, and the Interagency Council on Transportation Coordination. Hopefully the DoT will be in a position to recommend grant package applications based on needs of potential applicants because the wide array of grants can lead to confusion. Bobbie is meeting with counties to discuss the 2008 planning process. DoT is trying to get counties to combine their resources in order to better meet the needs of consumers.

DoT finalized the membership of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee of the Interagency Council on Transportation Coordination (ICTC). The committee met first in December and will meet again in February. DoT is meeting to look into ways to make funding available for consumers to attend ICTC meetings. Bobbie will let us know when ICTC's website goes live so that people can attend their meetings.

**Housing Report** – Mary Frances Troudt passed out handouts for local sub-recipients of HOME and HCRI grants, DHCD program and contact information brochure, and Fair Housing 2008 calendars.

She explained the Dept. of Commerce has a new secretary, Jack L. Fischer, (UW, Architecture degree)

*Jack Fischer last served as President and CEO of the Fischer Group Companies focusing on the development of retail mall, offices, and residential housing development alternatives. His expertise includes consulting serves, architecture, and development and construction management. (St. Croix Business Facts, Vol. 10, Iss. 12. December 2007. [http://www.stcroixedc.com/biz\\_fax\\_archives/bizfax0712.pdf](http://www.stcroixedc.com/biz_fax_archives/bizfax0712.pdf))*

but it's too early to know how he will accept the principles of visitability and universal design.

Mary Frances expressed that there is a lack of funding and advocacy with respect to housing needs and allocations. "Where's the public outcry." The committee discussed whether or not ILCs, ILCW, and WCILC should or can educate those who allocate housing funds about housing needs for persons with disabilities (financial as well as accessibility issues). Ms. Dwyer suggested that Housing should look into foreclosure rates of consumers, compared with other low income groups.

**Executive Committee Report** – Mike Bachhuber reported on the discussions and actions taken by the Executive Committee since November. The Executive Committee addressed: SILC Congress, Personnel, 704 Report, SPIL Work Plan, CRP-RCEP Region V Conference work group (Wisconsin will likely host RCEP Conf, but we would need financial assistance. They are trying to find \$2,000 from each state to finance the conference. Ms. Dwyer offered some other possible sources of funding).

**Executive Director's Report** – The Executive Director gave a report on staff activities. It included a discussion on DVR Contracts, update on staffing, a presentation on 704 report data, and discussion of the SDS and Independent Advocate contracts. He suggested that the SDS Facilitator contract might better suit ILCW because it would have a more gradual start. The council also expressed an interest in further clarifying the distinct roles of the council and corporation.

## February 5, 2008

Madison, WI

### Members Present

Charlene Dwyer, *ex-officio* (DWD-DVR)  
Bobbie Beson-Crone, *ex-officio* (DoT)  
Diane Ryan  
Evelyn Buckles

Joy Combs  
Teddy Pyke  
Sinikka Santala, *ex-officio* (DHFS)  
Pat Lerch (Sec 121) via teleconference

### Members Absent

Kathie Knoble-Iverson  
Charles Benner  
Bruce Huseboe

Mary Frances Troudt, *ex-officio* (DoC)  
Leonila Vega

### Others Present

Mike Bachhuber, Exec. Director  
William Parke-Sutherland, Admin Assistant

Tracy Thomas, Independence First

Acting as Chairperson, Evelyn Buckles called the Council to order at 8:50 A.M.

**DHFS Report** – Sinikka Santala explained that she stays in touch with ILCW even though she often cannot make meetings outside of Madison. She gave an update on Family Care, including an anticipated timetable and two maps further detailing Family Care and long-term care planning grants. Sheboygan County has just begun Family Care, and two other counties will start Family Care in March. About 30 counties will start Family Care in 2008. Joy asked why some of the counties on the first map (Planning Grants May 2007) were not colored; Sinikka explained that white counties have not applied for any planning grants, but are looking into their options.

Ms. Santala also explained about the Self Directed Supports wavier (SDS). DHFS is now in the process of implementing the SDS wavier. As Family Care expands the SDS wavier will also become available. They established an Implementation Stakeholders Committee, which has met once. DHFS is developing RFPs for an SDS "Independent Consultant" contract and a Family Care "Independent Advocate" contract. Mike Bachhuber expressed that ILCW will possibly submit a proposal for the Independent Consultant contract.

### Secretary's Report

The Secretary presented a draft of the November 12-14, 2007 minutes. Diane Ryan moved to accept the minutes, Joy Combs Seconded.

*Motion carried.*

### Finance Report

Tracy Thomas gave an update about ILCW finances. She passed out copies of the ILCW, Inc. Balance sheet as of December 31, 2007 and FY 08 Budget vs. Actuals. Council members asked questions about the handouts and offered some suggestions for improving readability and usefulness. The Council discussed some of its fiscal policies. Mike Bachhuber explained that the auditor will give a report to

the Executive Committee at its March meeting and Council members are welcome to attend and ask any questions they might have. Diane moved to place the report on file, Teddy seconded.

*Motion carried.*

### **Membership Committee Report**

The Committee explained that there are many vacancies to fill and some applications on file as well as individuals who have expressed interest but have not yet applied. The committee also explained its application process and is working on formulating an internal supplemental application. It will bring the supplemental application and its recommendations to the May council meeting.

### **Election of Treasurer**

No one expressed interest in running for treasurer. Hopefully some new member will be willing to serve as Treasurer.

### **Other Business**

The website, [www.ilcw.org](http://www.ilcw.org), has been substantially updated, but there are still a few things that need to be done. The Council addressed how staff might update the website and ways we could streamline the update process. Right now we use an independent contractor. Mike and William talked a little about transferring to a content management system, which although it has substantial start-up costs would be less expensive to maintain.

Charlene Dwyer and Mike Bachhuber explained that ILCW will receive approximately \$7,000 less funding than originally thought. The council discussed how this change in finances would impact program activities or contracts. Diane moved to reconsider the \$10,000 for IL leg Day and \$66K for outreach/advocacy activities previously approved during the November council meeting, and refer them to the executive committee for further consideration and action. Joy seconded.

*Motion carried.*

### **Public Comment**

Maureen Ryan reported that "SILC rocks." No other public comments were given.

### **SILC Congress Report**

Diane Ryan, Mike Bachhuber, and Joy Combs gave a brief report on highlights from SILC Congress. Mike Bachhuber told the council the resolutions made during SILC Congress.

### **Adjourned**

Having no further business the Acting Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12:05 PM.