



State of Wisconsin
Wisconsin Assistive Technology Advisory Council

1 WEST WILSON ST., ROOM 558
PO BOX 2659
MADISON, WI 53701

Voice: 608-266-3118
Fax: 608-267-3203
<https://atc.wisconsin.gov>

Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 18, 2017
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

IndependenceFirst
540 S. 1st St
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Conference Call Access Information:
USA Toll-Free: 1-877-820-7831
Participant Code: 254943

Action Items and Motion Items:

A. Action Items:

- 1. Action Item:** DHS staff will provide the AT Advisory Council's feedback on the AT tool kit to Maurine Strickland with DHS.
- 2. Action Item:** DHS staff will schedule remaining quarterly meetings for the year. Staff will gather responses from Council members on dates/availability using an interactive poll.
- 3. Action Item:** DHS staff will research and share Council members' current term lengths, expiring terms, and potential upcoming vacancies on the AT Advisory Council.

B. Motion Items:

- 1. Motion Item:** Lee Schulz made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. David Koch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- 2. Motion Item:** Lee Schulz made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the February meeting. The motion was seconded by Michelle Lampson. The motion carried unanimously.
- 3. Motion Item:** Lee Schulz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by David Koch. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions by Lisa Sobczyk, DHS Staff

AT Council Members Present: Megan Igou, Lee Schulz, David Koch, Michelle Lampson, and Kathy Massa.

Wisconsin Assistive Technology Advisory Council
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 18, 2017
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

AT Council Staff Support Present: Lisa Sobczyk, Department of Health Services (DHS); Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources (BADR) and Mason Aumanstal, DHS; BADR.

Guests: John Nousaine, North Country Independent Living and Shari Brunes, MidState Independent Living.

II. Meeting called to order 10:17 am by DHS staff member Lisa Sobczyk.

The meeting was held in person at IndependenceFirst, 540 S.1st St, Milwaukee, WI 53204 and made available to Council members, guests, and community members via phone by calling (877) 820-7831 and using the participant code of 254943.

III. Review and Approval of the Agenda

- Lee Schulz made a motion to approve the agenda. David Koch seconded. Motion carries unanimously. See Motion Item 1.

IV. Review and Approval of February Meeting Minutes

- Lee Schulz made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the February meeting. The motion was seconded by Michelle Lampson. The motion carried unanimously. See Motion Item 2.

V. Public Comment

- David Koch from CILWW stated that an organization named Americans for Better Hearing provided communication equipment to consumers and it didn't work. One Wisconsin applicant received no assistance in the set up or use of the AT devices and is not able to use them.
- Kathy Massa suggested that AT4All, the online Wisconsin AT inventory management system would be better served if there was a way to indicate that items are new to the system.

VI. Updates from Assistive Technology (AT) Members

- Megan Igou from Independent Living Resources (ILR) reported that ILR is performing outreach with the La Crosse School District to increase loan and demonstration participation. They also are hoping to increase participation of demonstrations of AT with parents of children with disabilities. Megan Igou also reported that three staff have attained Assistive Technology Professional (ATP) certification including one staff member in Richmond County and two at the primary La Crosse location.
- Lee Schulz with IndependenceFirst reported that they recently provided training to Occupational Therapy students from Concordia University to discuss and promote the use of AT. Lee Schulz also reported that IndependenceFirst is purchasing new AT thanks to a new grant received aimed at increasing the use of AT. IndependenceFirst is presenting on AT and youth programs at GE.

Wisconsin Assistive Technology Advisory Council
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 18, 2017
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

- David Koch from the Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin (CILWW) stated that CILWW has worked to retool the Center's AT room with new funds made available by DHS. This now allows CILWW to have a place in the center to do loan and demonstration with consumers. David Koch also noted that their QR Code reader program for tracking AT items has been a success and that they are hoping to show and train on their system to other ILCs in the network. Finally, David Koch advised that CILWW is performing a lot more AT assessments for Augmentative Communication devices due to increased referrals from Managed Care Organizations and IRIS.
- Shari Bruner with MidState Independent Living said the center held an AT demo day that was successful. Community members were able to see AT in action as well as try out devices. They also updated their Alexa app and were to demonstrate this AT.
- John Nousaine with North County Independent Living (NCIL) said that all staff recently attended training at Duluth Lighthouse Center for Vision Loss. John Nousaine stated that NCIL send a letter on the AT Act asking to preserve and increase funding for the state AT program.
- Kathy Massa with the Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) is focusing on changes and training with the Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA). DVR held an assessment day for Project SEARCH, a program designed to aid students with disabilities in transitioning to post-secondary education and employment. Nine students will be moving forward with Project SEARCH in the fall. Kathy Massa also noted that DVR is creating technical specifications to aid in assessments to determine appropriate AT for individuals with disabilities. DVR is vetting vendors that will be working on the technical specifications for AT assessments. These tech specs will be vetted with providers doing job tech specs.

VII. WisTech Program Updates

- Lisa Sobczyk and Mason Aumanstal with DHS attended the Assistive Technology Act Programs (ATAP) Leadership Symposium and discussed some of the items that they learned at the symposium including the federal requirements for the AT Council and the Wisconsin AT Advisory Council being out of compliance with these regulations. The AT Council make up is required to be consumer driven with at least 51% representation of individuals with disabilities that use AT; the council would need 4 more consumer representatives to be in compliance.
- Lisa Sobczyk noted that DHS applied to be administer pf the permanent National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program. DHS will partner with the Center for Deaf-Blind Persons to provide distance communication devices to individuals who are both deaf and/or hard of hearing and who have a visual impairment.
- Mason Aumanstal noted that the process for updating Administrative Code Chapter DHS 78 is ongoing, but there is no update to provide at this time.

Wisconsin Assistive Technology Advisory Council
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 18, 2017
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

- Second Quarter AT data for the WisTech program was provided to the AT Council for review.
- Lisa Sobczyk advised that DHS is creating a new web page for the AT Council that will go live in June.
- Lisa Sobczyk solicited a request as to the location of the next AT Council meeting. Megan Igou advised that she will inquire with Independent Living Resources leadership to see about hosting the May 18th meeting at the La Crosse location.
- Lisa Sobczyk and Mason Aumanstal discussed the upcoming WisTech regional trainings occurring on 6/27/2017, 7/27/2017 and 9/15/2017. The Independent Living Centers (ILCs) were given a training survey to identify which AT training topics were most needed by the ILCs.

VIII. By-laws Review and Discussion

- The AT Council reviewed the current by-laws and discussed potential changes.
- The advised changes were noted by DHS staff.
- By-laws changes will be made and presented to the Council for final review at the next quarterly meeting.

IX. Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) Assistive Technology Demonstration Tool Kit and AT Training Information

- DHS staff presented a number of AT devices included in the current ADRC AT tool kit. The devices range from low to high tech and were meant for ADRC to show consumers beneficial uses for a range of devices. The AT Advisory Council was asked to review the AT items and provide feedback on the AT items and make recommendations for what AT items should be added to the tool kit.
- The AT Council recommended a number of items that could be added to the ADRC tool kit including a hands-free full page magnifier (the Council also discussed apps for Android and iOS devices that perform magnification functions), fluorescent tape for boundary marking, and simple communication devices such as switches and point communication devices.
- The AT Council also suggested creating videos/ and demonstration photos showing how the items in the tool kit can be used.
- After tool kit is distributed to ADRCs discussion should be had as to when it is appropriate to refer clients out for an AT assessment. Also new staff should be trained on the tool kit.

X. Adjourn

- Motion was made by Lee Schulz to adjourn the meeting. David Koch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. See Motion Item 3.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:07 p.m.