# MSCOD Council Meeting

Thursday, December 4, 2014

Northwest Area Foundation

60 Plato Blvd. E, Suite 400

St. Paul, Minnesota 55107

## Agenda

* Call to order & Introductions
* Approval of Agenda & Minutes
* Legislative Presentations
  + MOVEMN – Dave Vanholten
  + MACIL – Vicki Dalle-Molle
  + Equipalife – Carol Fury, Executive Director
  + MSCOD, David Fenley – Accommodation Study
  + MSCOD, Margot Imdieke Cross – Disability Parking
* Rebecca Covington, Executive Director MN-CCD
  + MA Reform
  + MA Income Standards
  + MA-EPD
* Committee Updates
  + Accessibility
  + Employment
  + Events
  + ADA 25th anniversary event
* Elections
* Public Comment
* Chairs Report
  + Executive Director’s report
  + Budget approval
  + Other
* Adjourn

## Call to Order & Introductions

The chair called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Council members in attendance were: Nathan Aalgaard, Robert Johnson, Kim Tyler, Nancy Rosemore, Hilary Hauser, Kathy Peterson, Christine Versaevel, Dean Aschman, Jim Thalhuber, Kathy Wingen and Elliot Albright. David Schwartzkopf and Barb Stensland participated by phone. Ex-officios present were: Jill Keen, Linda Lingen, Karly Turner, Loraine Jensen, Gail Lundeen, Barb Lundeen and Joani Werner. Staff members attending were Joan Willshire, Margot Imdieke Cross, Shannon Hartwig, Linda Gremillion, Stuart Cross, David Fenley, David Shaw, Andy Mosca and Elizabeth Demski.

## Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Kim Tyler motioned for approval of the agenda. Kathy Wingen seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Dean Ascheman motioned for approval of the minutes of the September 26, 2014 council meeting. Nancy Rosemore seconded the motion. It was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

## Legislative Presentations

Representatives from several Minnesota organizations presented their legislative priorities to the council.

Dave Van Hattum of MOVEMN, transit for livable communities, spoke on their legislative platform. MOVEMN consists of 200 organizations statewide devoted to improving all transportation in the state. It wants to significantly increase bus and other transit in the next 10 years with a strong pedestrian and bicycle component. It would have balanced, long-term and sustainable revenue sources. MOVEMN is asking for MSCOD’s support on this issue. The disability community would benefit as the population in general would benefit.

Carol Fury, executive director of Equipalife, is also requesting MSCOD’s support for their capitalization program. Equipalife provides financial support through low cost loans for adaptive equipment which enables those with disability to work and live independently. The money is invested wisely and loans are paid back. They are seeking $2,000,000 for a capitalization program to be funded from the general appropriation fund.

Vicki Dalle-Molle of MCIL was delayed. The council called the next speaker.

Margot Imdieke Cross, MSCOD staff, presented possible changes to disability parking. The state is trying to upgrade disability parking permits by 2017, (It takes time to retool the software.) The state will be considering eligibility and the number and types of certificate to make it effective. There will be public hearings on this issue. The community should have open discussions and think of enforceable ideas. Research should also be conducted on how other state handle this issue. We want to make sure the new system works for everyone.

David Fenley, MSCOD staff, reported that Deaf Blind Minnesota is gathering numbers for a report on money spent for accommodation in 2012-2013 by cabinet level agencies. It did not specify a fiscal amount for the study.

## Lunch Break 12:00

Lunch break was taken at 12:00.

## Call to Order 12:40

Meeting was called to order at 12:40.

## Legislative Presentations

In the continued absence of Vicki Dalle-Molle, Nate Aalgaard, MCIL (MN centers for independent living),presented MCIL legislative agenda. MCIL would request $500,000 for each center. There are 8 centers statewide serving the disability community. They also hope to streamline the process of making monthly reports to DEED.

Rebecca Covington was delayed. The chair moved forward in the agenda, to the chair and director’s reports.

## Chair’s Report

Jim Thalhuber announced the next council meeting would be Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at the capitol. Members could meet with their legislators in the morning and the full council would meet in the afternoon. The legislative forum will be at 1:30 p.m. on December 11, 2014. Staff have been attending meetings outstate and out of state. David Fenley attended an employment conference in Washington, D.C. which was paid for by the conference. He discovered that Minnesota is ahead of the curve on the issue of employment 1st and received information and resources at the national level. Margot Imdieke Cross and Joan Willshire are waiting to hear if they will make presentations at the ADA Conference in Atlanta and Linda Gremillion will attend a conference in Florida on the ADA. The chair asked for a motion to approve funds so staff may attend appropriate conferences. Dean Ascheman motioned for funding for staff expenses to attend appropriate meetings. Kathy Wingen seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote. The chair asked council members to complete a self-evaluation form for each meeting. This feedback will enable us to improve our meeting experience.

## Director’s Report

Joan Willshire attended a meeting on Home & Community Board Waivers. The final review of this plan is coming soon. Currently the review of statutes for Olmstead make it difficult to meet Olmstead. A letter was sent to the Lt. Governor to make Olmstead broad, independent, and responsible as an agency (50 individuals a year was suggested). The director will facilitate an ADA panel at the Human Rights conference on December 10, 2014.

## Budget

Jim Thalhuber announced that in the near future the council will have an education class on the budget. This will include how the budget works, how to read different types of reports and the agency’s responsibilities.

## Elections

The MSCOD Council held elections for four positions open on the executive committee. There were six candidates: Nathan Aalgaard, Dean Ascheman, Bob Johnson, Kathy Peterson, Barb Stensland, and Kathy Wingen. Members were also free to write-in a candidate. Each member voted for 4 of the candidates on signed ballots; phone in members called or texted their choice. Votes were tabulated by Linda Lingen, ex-officio. The winners are Nathan Aalgaard, Dean Ascheman, Bob Johnson and Kathy Peterson. Bob Johnson and Nathan Aalgaard withdrew their names from consideration for vice-chair. Members then voted for Dean Ascheman or Kathy Peterson for vice-chair using the same process. Dean Ascheman was voted in as vice-chair.

MN-CCD, Rebecca Covington

Rebecca Covington executive director of MN-CCD, an organization of 50 members statewide, spoke on their policy priorities for 2015. Their lead policy will be MA reform. This includes raising income standards, raising excess income (asset limit $3000), and repealing the increase in MA-EPD premiums. They will try another 5% campaign to keep pace with the private sector. They support the education of legislators on the Olmstead plan. In coalition they will join MOVEMN on transit, Homes for All on affordable stable communities for the homeless and Toxic Free Kids on removing toxic chemicals. (An example of this is banning BPA.)

Review of MSCOD Public Policy Agenda

David Schwartzkopf had concern over adequate time to review the policy agenda. The chair decided to convene a special meeting by phone to be announced 48 hours in advance to discuss and adopt MSCOD’s public policy agenda (per MSCOD by-laws).

## Committee Updates

### ACCESS Committee

Nathan Aalgaard reported on the access committee meeting. The committee reviewed and approved the stated purpose and approved with changes the goals that were presented. The access assessment of the state parks has been delayed. Capitol renovations continue; active construction has severely limited space at the capitol and handicap parking and handicap restrooms are also limited.

### EMPLOYMENT Committee

Kathy Wingen reported on the employment committee. They discussed reviving the training program, and meeting the state employment goal of 7%. The committee purpose and goals were discussed. There are 3 categories: legislative, transportation and employment. It was decided to focus on 1 or 2. The Olmstead plan, executive order, and employment 1st plans have not been achieved.

### ADA LEGACY Committee

Andy Mosca reported on the status of the ADA celebration. There is an ADA workplan. The employment survey is in place and we are asking all to please respond. The focus groups are completed and we are talking to employers. Due to a delay in our RFP dates have been pushed back for determining the venue for the July 9, ADA event. We should have a vendor by the holiday and the video and poster contest date has been set back. MSCOD is seeking additional funds to support the ADA event in 2015.

## Public Comment

There was no public comment.

## Other Business

Council members and ex-officios should submit a short biography to Shannon Hartwig by January 2,2015. The new executive committee will start the next meeting. All members are asked to please fill out their surveys.

## Adjournment

Nancy Rosemore motioned for adjournment. Christine Versaevel seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Demski