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PSDP Board of Directors Minutes 8/27/14

Attendees

Veronica, Brad, Chanda, Elaine, Morgance

Agenda

- Next Meeting
- Wisconsin Medicaid Benefit
- 2014 Convention
- 2015 Convention
- Needs Assessment
- Website
 - Board Activities
 - FAQ
 - Articles
 - 2014 Convention Pictures & Video
 - Emergency Card
- Treasury Report
- Nonprofit Status

- Next Meeting
Monday, September 8th, noon PDT/3:00 p.m. EDT.

- Wisconsin Medicaid Benefit
In Wisconsin, U.S., the Department of Health Services (Division of Long Term Care, Office of Family Care Expansion) [solicited comments](#) on their "[Draft Family Care 1915\(c\) HCBS Renewal Application](#)". This draft included language to expand Medicaid benefits in Wisconsin to include the purchase of and routine veterinary care for service dogs. Unfortunately, and to the detriment of our community, the draft language did not allow for owner-trainers to take full advantage of the benefit. We explain this, why the problem should be rectified, and how to fix it in our comment:

<http://www.psychdogpartners.org/board-of-directors/board-activities/advocacy/wisconsin-medicaid-benefit-comment>

We have encouraged members of our community to submit comments, as well; the deadline is Sept. 2.

- 2014 Convention
The 2014 Convention Planning Committee has done an excellent job; we had a really great convention!
- 2015 Convention
We are discussing location possibilities and date restrictions.
- Needs Assessment
We are drafting our second Needs Assessment Survey. We plan to conduct these annually in September.

Here are the previous survey's results, for review:

- 4.58 Providing written information about PSD costs and lifestyle
- 4.49 Maintain information sharing listserv

4.44 Providing a Public Access Standard and Public Access Test
4.40 Providing a FAQ for the general public
4.36 Providing a work and task list

31 nonprofit
29 new listserv
21 maintain listserv
17 costs and lifestyle
16 conventions

Overall, our progress has been excellent toward these community goals. We will continue to work toward those that still apply, and will be soliciting input on current community priorities.

•Website

-Board Activities

As above, we have posted our comments and an announcement on the Wisconsin Medicaid service dog benefit proposal.

We will also post our old statement on Public Law 112-154, for the sake of including it in our advocacy history.

-FAQ

We are continuing to draft answers to common questions (FAQ) for the website, in sections, with the assistance of a community member. In addition to the initial "Laws" section, we have now posted four other sections: "[Choosing a Service Dog Prospect](#)", "[Training-Basics](#)", "[Training—Beyond Basics](#)", and "[Ask an Attorney](#)", which has an initial Q&A from attorney Pam Cohen, "[How can I enforce my legal rights with regard to my service animal?](#)".

-Articles

We have posted Tracey Martin's articles, with our editing.

We have also posted Veronica's "Interacting with the General Public" article.

Once we have edited it, we plan to post Julia's article on how to pick a breeder of a prospective service dog.

-2014 Convention Pictures & Video

We have received Deanna's picture compilation, and are working to compile these with others to post, along with links to convention videos.

-Emergency Card

We have posted an emergency card in our "[Service Dog Lifestyle](#)" section, to be filled out then carried on or with a service dog for assistance to emergency personnel when needed.

•Treasury Report

We discussed upcoming expenses and current funds, including our website renewal fee and a donation from Margie Cantwell's book-selling activities, facilitated by Deanna (thank you!).

We are up-to-date on getting thank-yous out to all but our most recent donor.

•Nonprofit Status

A subcommittee is continuing to conduct research into the appropriate avenue for our nonprofit creation. (ongoing)