

Disability Advisory Council Meeting
AmericInn, Monroe
July 17, 2014

Members in attendance: Chair Tom Zimmer, Joe Greene, Werner Burkat, John Martinson, John Mitchell, Jim Rutledge, and Steve Johnson via teleconference

Others in attendance: Dan Olson, Anthonette Gilpatrick, Barry Gilbeck, Julie Amakobe, John Anderson, Monica Kamal, and Ray Anderson

Chair Tom Zimmer called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. First the Council did an agenda repair. Anthonette indicated that Access Ability Wisconsin would be presenting at 1:00 and that the Council may need to move the agenda items around. The DAC decided to wait and see if it was necessary to move up that particular agenda item.

Steve asked that Members' updates be on today's agenda and, therefore, this agenda item was moved after the Adaptive Sports Expo item. Werner made a motion to accept the agenda with modifications. Joe Greene seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Next the DAC went over the minutes from October 18, 2013. Tom had a comment on page 2 regarding the role of the DAC and how it communicates its views with Legislators and other public venues such as public hearings, etc. Werner and Anthonette discussed the role of the DAC. Anthonette further clarified the role of the DAC, based on a recent conversation with Michael Bruhn, DNR Legislative Liaison. There was a lot of discussion regarding this item. In conclusion, Members of the DAC advise DNR and, therefore, should not be representing DNR or talking directly to Legislators. DNR events or programs are different and at these events a DAC member can discuss the DAC's recommendations.

Werner had a comment on page 3 regarding rifles and how they can now be used during the gun deer hunt season. He suggested that "statewide" should be added to the sentence. Werner also indicated that on page 5, last paragraph, the name should read Sandy Popp and not Sandy Kopp. Sandy Popp is with Options for Independent Living in Green Bay.

John Mitchell made a motion to accept the minutes with the corrections. Joe Greene seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Next on the agenda were the DAC elections. Tom opened up the floor for Chair nominations.

Werner nominated Tom Zimmer for Chair and John Martinson seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Jim Rutledge made a motion to accept the nomination.

Jim nominated John Martinson for Vice Chair and John Mitchell seconded the nomination. Jim made a motion to accept the nomination.

Next on the agenda was the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (WCC) Spring Rule Hearings' Summary of Results. Tom talked about trolling (#1) and pan fish (#11-21). Allowing trolling statewide received a "yes" majority. Panfish management answers varied, but majority wanted to keep general panfish combined daily bag limit of 25 fish. Simplifying fishing stamp requirements by creating a single fishing stamp purchased by all anglers (#32) received a "yes" majority. Ban deer baiting and feeding statewide 10 days before and during the 9-day gun deer season (#34) received a "yes" majority. Legalize the harvest of white and albino deer statewide (#35) received a "no" majority. They are protected even if in CWD zone. #37 Transferring a permit or license to anyone eligible to use the license or permit (#37) received a "no" majority. Transferring a license or permit to any immediate relative that is eligible to use the permit # (38) received a "yes" majority. Barry clarified that the bear tag transfer is already in place. Tom brought up the item Establish a Senior Resident conservation patron license (#47) which received a "yes" majority. Prevent non-resident novice hunters from applying for a Learn to Hunt (LTH) bear programs (#51) received a "yes" majority. Barry said they do fill up (learn to hunt sessions). Jim had a question regarding catch and release fishing seasons: artificial lures only (#3) received a "yes" majority and yet: apply early catch and release season to all inland trout streams received a "no" majority. Jim thought DNR should set up special seasons for trout season catch and release only. Increase Wisconsin inland waters trout stamp fee (#53) received a "no" majority.

Next on the agenda, Monica Kamal and Ray Anderson from Access Ability Wisconsin came to discuss their organization and its immediate goal. The Organization's goal was one (1) Action Trackchair per County with Dane County as its pilot, utilizing Dane County Pheasants Forever (National Program) Chapter. Access Ability Wisconsin (AAW) is an official sub-chapter of Pheasants Forever. With the theme "No Child Left Indoors", Wisconsin can be a lead on this objective. The AAW has participated in the National Wild Turkey Federation and Safari Club events/booths.

Monica did a Power Point presentation on the Action Trackchair. The Action Trackchair can open up nature and wildlife to people with disabilities. Monica stated that there are about 5.7 million acres of public land in Wisconsin and approximately 300,000 people in Wisconsin have a disability. This chair can go many places a traditional wheelchair cannot; it can travel on a variety of surfaces and grades.

The AAW wants to advocate for the use of Track Chairs with individuals and other organizations and agencies with similar outdoor recreation and hunting purposes.

The question that AAW is asking is "Why is an Action Trackchair considered an Other Power Driven Mobility Device (OPDMD) and not a traditional personal mobility device? Currently a person using an Action Trackchair needs a permit to go on a trail. Ray asked how is an able bodied person walking on these trails different than a disabled person in an Action Trackchair? This question includes off trail uses, too. He indicated that the Action Trackchair is battery operated and is similar to a power wheel chair. How can the DAC help with this issue and develop a policy so that persons using an Action Trackchair do not need a OPDMD permit? Tom asked what the impact of this chair is on the environment. Jim indicated that his power chair can do more damage to the environment than his Action Trackchair. Werner indicated that

the DAC talked about this and a personal mobility device is a device that can be used indoors or outdoors. The DAC/DNR took the federal law regarding OPDMDs and drafted procedures to implement the new law. Anthonette said that user conflicts are an issue too when it comes to OPDMDs. Steve Johnson talked about invasive species and the impact of using the Action Trackchair on these. Monica indicated that the chair can be washed before entry to the area and again when it leaves the area. Anthonette wants to develop an internal group and begin a discussion on OPDMDs current use, identify issues and possibly have an Action Trackchair demonstration.

Monica is working on a reservation system where Pheasants Forever could rent this one chair in every county. There is national liability insurance (user can sign a waiver) so this should make the rentals ok. John Mitchell said that Wings over Wisconsin has one of these chairs and anyone can call and reserve it. It is in a trailer. Werner suggested checking in the day of arrival and talking to the property manager about using the Action Trackchair and that this is an alternative to getting a OPDMD.

Anthonette indicated that some trails' assessments have been completed. Jim says the Action Trackchair is safer than his power wheelchair. Barry asked a question, "Does it make tracks going into a park?" These tracks could start a new trail. This is why a permit is necessary. There are certain areas where there may not be a property manager available, so getting a permit may be difficult on that day. Monica asked "Is a OPDMD permit necessary?" Anthonette indicated that federal law allows for a permit and we shaped DNR policies/rules on this law.

Steve made a motion to support the federal law which allows for an Other Power Driven Mobility Device (OPDMD) permit. Jim seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Monica informed the Council that the AAW is partnering with Youngman's Sportsmen's Club along with Pheasants Forever. Werner asked for the price of chair. Monica indicated that \$10,200 is the base price and \$15,000 includes storage and ongoing maintenance.

Next on the agenda was the Deer Trustee Report. Tom's and Tyler's e-mail relating to Spring turkey hunts in state parks was distributed. It was concluded that a disabled turkey hunter can still establish a hunt on private land.

It was also discussed that the buck tag has to be used for a buck now (not a buck or antlerless) statewide. These tags are weapon specific. Class A and Class C can use farmland zone tags which are not unit or weapon specific.

Tom asked how does one define "youth". Barry said that youth is defined as a "first time hunter education safety graduate" (10-15 year olds). Barry clarified the deer hunting rule changes. There are complicated changes related to these new rules.

John Mitchell thinks that the elimination of spring turkey hunting for the disabled hunting only in state parks hurts the Class A and Class C permit holders because it is a lost opportunity for persons with disabilities. Steve Johnson agreed with John Mitchell.

The DAC went over Tyler's responses to the same questions.

Barry thanked Tom for agreeing to participate in the CAES statewide meeting. Tom will be working directly with Chris Thielman on the new permit application. Barry handed out the newest letters regarding the crossbow changes and the privileges of Class A, B, and C permit holders. Barry went over all the permit change letters for the crossbow.

The DAC recommends that in 2017 that if the length of crossbow season is shortened, the law would revert back to the original statutes (full season with a permit) for the Class A, Long Term Class B, Crossbow, and Class C permits and persons 65 and older.

One disability permit application form is now available on the DNR's "Open the Outdoors" website.

Barry went over the new Deer Hunting Zones for antlerless deer permit. See Wisconsin 2014 Deer Hunting Regulations.

Next on the agenda was the Adaptive Sports Expo. Anthonette handed out the Adaptive Sports and Recreation Expo flyer which indicates that the event will be held on Saturday July 26th in West Allis. 260 people have already registered for this event.

The DAC Member Selection Process was the next agenda item. Anthonette said we have four applications in house for the one Alternative vacancy. There was a lot of discussion regarding how to proceed with the selection process. Anthonette volunteered to outline the criteria to be used in the selection process. There can and should be a written process and an interview process. Joe Greene said he has done a lot of interviews and is willing to help out. Steve suggested Anthonette and Julie get out an advertisement and put a deadline for application submittals on it and go from there.

Members' updates:

Jim Rutledge: A Paralyzed Veterans of Wisconsin Chapter trap shoot took place in Green Bay and 20 youth participated.

Steve Johnson: The ADA Expo (conference) took place in Denver in June. Steve got a lot of information on outdoor ADA related issues. Steve mentioned how great the presenter, Bill Botten, was. It was an excellent opportunity. Steve went as an individual not as County personnel. Steve indicated that on March 24, 2012, new ADA rules became effective for outdoor areas including piers, play areas, and pools. Steve received lots of materials at this conference. He has a link to this information for anyone wishing to look at it. He will give the DAC the passwords to access it. There are 135 files of information from the presenters.

Steve also let the Council know that a NASA memorial accessible park is being built in Onalaska. There are six acres for a park with two shelters for Veterans and others. There was \$200,000 raised at the most recent NASA banquet which was the largest one ever.

Steve informed the Council that they are in the early stages of constructing fishing piers in Onalaska and West Salem. The DNR, La Crosse County and City of La Crosse are having their 3rd annual deer hunt providing the hunters with 170 acres of Forest.

Joe Greene: On September 13th from 8:00 am to 3 pm there will be a crossbow siting event at the Racine Instinctive Bowmen facility in Racine.

John Martinson: On August 16th there will be a sporting clay event in Montello. John is the contact for this event.

Werner: No updates.

John Mitchell: On August 23rd Adaptive Sportsmen will be having a picnic and shooting event. The organization will also be modifying a pier that a landowner wants them to do. There is an electric deer stand that is available to person with a disability. The stand can take a person up twenty one feet. There is a sign out sheet. John Martinson will work out the details for this. (He is a member of Adaptive Sportsmen). He reminded us that there will be bow hunts in October in both Baraboo and Clintonville.

Tom: No updates.

Werner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joe Greene seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45.

Disability Advisory Council Meeting
Yellowstone Lake Shooting Range Tour
July 18, 2014

DAC Members in attendance: Chair Tom Zimmer, Werner Burkat, John Martinson, John Mitchell, and Jim Rutledge

Others in attendance: Dan Olson, Anthonette Gilpatrick, Steve Krallis, Julie Amakobe, Keith Warnke, Bruce Folley, John Anderson, Chad Hermanson, Ray Anderson, and Nick Zouski

The Disability Advisory Council (DAC) met on July 18, 2014 at the Yellowstone Shooting Range. The tour of the Shooting Range was part of their quarterly meeting. The DAC, along with Chad Hermanson of Action Trackchair, and Nick Zouski from Access to Independence toured the facility and provided recommendations on how to improve the facility to make it more accessible. Below are the agreed to recommendations.

Bruce Folley, Property Manager of Yellowstone Lake Wildlife Area and Shooting Range, gave us a tour of the site. This range used to be a farmstead. The shooting range was here before the Park and Wildlife areas were established. The shooting range is part of the 4,000 acres of the Wildlife Area. Yellowstone Lake State Park is about 1 mile away.

Currently, there are 16,000 people in LaFayette County. There has been an increase in the use of the range over the years. The Department had been waiting to do the renovations at this Range for over 10 years. A few years ago Pittman Robinson (PR) funds (federal excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition) became available for the remodel. Since this was an existing range, no new approvals were necessary. LaFayette Sportsmen Club used to maintain the Range before it was remodeled. Bruce is now the manager dedicated to the site. Vandalism is almost zero. The users also keep it clean.

From October 2013 through January 2014, 5,000 vehicles used the range. The majority of people were not local people, but rather persons from Chicago, Rockford, Madison, and Milwaukee. The attractions to this shooting range are that there are no members' fees, no entry fees, and one does not need a reservation. Deerfield, Beloit, and Argyle shooting ranges, for example, have member fees.

The design specifications for ADA Shooting Ranges are located in Chapter 10 of the 2010 ADA Standards. Below are the comments for improving accessibility at the range and other design improvements or enhancements:

Entrance Sign – Either turn it or add another sign (so they are seen in both directions). Currently, one does not see the sign until he/she passes the entry.

Accessible Porta Potty - Door pull is hard. It should be loosened up a bit. The internal dimensions are accessible.

Keith Warnke, Hunting and Shooting Sports Coordinator indicated that there are two dozen more ranges that he is working on. Some of the ranges are existing and others will be newly constructed. He also gave the DAC and other visitors a tour of all three (3) Yellowstone ranges: 25 foot, 50 yard, and 100 yard.

ADA Requirements for Shooting Ranges

Anthonette said that ADA Chapter 1010.1 specifies a circular turning space 60” diameter minimum with slopes not steeper than 1:48 (2%) shall be provided at shooting facilities with firing positions. At least 5%, but no less than one, of each type of firing position shall comply with 1010.1 (above).

Other DNR Recommendations

Standing (a person will wheel up to shooting table/stays in chair), then the shooting table should be 28 inch minimum to 34 inches maximum height (ADA dining and work surfaces).

Transfers to shooting seats – 17 inches to 19 inches seat height

25 Foot Range

The 25 foot range is for the use of handguns. There is a drainage problem at this site. There is the need to add crushed limestone. The Contractor is to fix the drainage issue and then add limestone to the walkway. Contractor will create a waterway to have water flow out. If this doesn't work, contractor will need to use tile to the parking lot.

There are 9 total stations

- 8 standing (wheel up to shooting table)

- 1 of the 8 is considered the ADA shooting bench. It is 33* inches to the top of the shooting table, with a 4 feet wide opening and it has at least 60” in front of the shooting bench to turn around.

- 7 of the 8 are 39” to the top of the shooting bench.

- 1 donated shooting bench (one would need to transfer from wheelchair to seat) is 26 inches to the top of the seat and 41 inches to the top of the shooting bench.

*Plan specifies top of the shooting table as 34”.

50 Yard Range

Access path to the targets is crushed limestone. The pathway is ok to get to the targets, but needs maintenance once one gets there. There is too much sand at target areas themselves. Steve Krallis indicated that rubberized porous asphalt could possibly be a better substance to use. The DRS Company, which is located in Madison, is the company that has this type of asphalt. Contact Dave Scotsman for more information. Anthonette will talk to Great Lakes Advisory Center about shooting ranges, specifically regarding walkways and targets.

There are 6 total stations

- 4 standing

- 2 existing shooting benches

 - 1 seat is 17 inches high to the top of seat and 34 inches to the top of the shooting bench and is considered the ADA shooting bench with fixed seat.

100 Yard Range

The 100 foot range needs to get concrete fixed (cracked) on pathway between fixed station and range. **Contact Brandon Braithwaite.** At the far end, John Martinson demonstrated a design issue/problem; the need for smaller pins. The issue with the pins was the seat height adjustment and swing, the pins did not line up very well, so a smaller size pin would work better.

There are 8 total stations

- All 8 stations have shooting benches that have adjustable seats that swing out and have adjustable heights.

 - 2 of the 8 (#7 and #8 on the plans) are designated as ADA shooting benches. The heights of these benches are 35 inches to the top of the shooting bench. The other 6 benches are 39 inches to the top of the shooting bench.

Foot rest on Nick's chair hit the posts (support). Keith and Chad suggested that we move posts. DNR will move 2 posts and add 16inch extension off of the front bench.

Keith informed the Group that Milford Hills (Lake Mills), McMiller, Warren Valley (Oconomowoc) Rock View, North Crystal Sportsman, and Dane County Sheriff's Ranges all charge a fee of \$10-\$16 and are supervised by Officers. The Yellowstone Lake Shooting Range does not charge a fee.

Next, Chad Hermanson of Evansville did an Action Trackchair demonstration. He is an Action Trackchair Distributor. Chad said that the base cost for one of these chairs is \$10,200 and around \$15,000 with amenities such as a gun holder, gun rest, umbrella, etc. Tim Swenson is the designer and these chairs came out about 4 years ago. The chair has the ultimate tilt switch which keeps center of balance. The chair can go up to 4 miles per hour. There are 24 volts of power in the battery and it has up to 4 hours of continuous use. It has a flip-up foot rest, side AND front transfer. The footprint for a 200 pound person using this chair is about 1.2 pounds per square inch (like a grey squirrel ☺).

The chair can go into 10” of water. The battery is sealed. Grass does not get caught in the tracks. Eight to ten hours are needed to charge the battery. Life of the battery indicator is on the joystick.

Bruce Folley commented that the Action Trackchair looked good to him as far as being able to be used on the trail with the exception of the horse trails. Therefore, the user would not be a need to fill out a OPDMD. Most of his OPDMD applications are for trucks and ATVs versus All Terrain or Action Trackchairs.

The Council proceeded to Yellowstone Lake State Park and had lunch at the shelter building. After lunch the DAC continued with the agenda for the day.

First on the agenda, Anthonette handed out calendars with the months of September 2014, December 2014, March 2015, June 2015, September 2015, and December 2015. The dates set for the next DAC meetings are as follows:

September 25 & 26, 2014 in LaCrosse (overnight). **This has since been revised.**
Sept. 25 12:00-5:00 DAC tour of sites for accessibility. Goose Island is a possible site to visit.
Sept. 26 9:00-3:00 DAC meeting

December 19, 2014 is a Conference Call due to possible weather issues.

March 20, 2015 in Wisconsin Rapids Service Center

June 18 and 19, 2015 at a property to be determined
June 18 12:00-5:00 Tour of property for accessibility
June 19 9:00-3:00 DAC meeting

September 10 & 11, 2015 at a property to be determined

December 18, 2015 Conference Call

Next Anthonette went over the Accessibility Coordinator Updates.

Anthonette will send copies to DAC members of the Tank Chair.

She discussed “Conservation Cafes” which the Feds want participation from all parts of the population and a DAC member may get asked to participate.

The Department of Natural Resources sponsored the Fish and Wildlife Service’s audit. Anthonette is following up and any accessibility issues or problems sited during the audit. She handed out the Fish and Wildlife Audit letter. Anthonette pointed out to the Council that Wild Rose Fish Hatchery had an accessibility issue that needs to be addressed, but that the fishing pier they inspected was ok.

Next, Anthonette handed out several articles and Flyers for the Council to read. These included:

- 1) Camping in Accessible Cabins article by Mike Ervin which Anthonette helped author.
- 2) Flyer for the Disability Pride Festival on Saturday July 26th in Madison. At the Festival there will be adaptive bicycles to try out.
- 3) Flyer for the Adaptive Sports and Recreation Expo to be held on July 26th in West Allis.
- 4) Abilities Expo will have an event in Chicago on July 26th (every year the same date).
- 5) Available to All article by Karely Mendez who interviewed Anthonette for the accessibility information regarding accessible recreation opportunities at Wisconsin State Parks.
- 6) Flyer for the ADA Legacy Project which was obtained from its Website and highlights the upcoming 25th Anniversary of the ADA. The Website outlines the ADA Legacy Tour route which will include several larger cities throughout the Country. Anthonette let the Council know that she is very involved with the Wisconsin ADA Legacy Committee (Team) which is working on activities for the 25th anniversary in 2015.

Anthonette informed the DAC that she is the Recreational Liaison with the Wisconsin Council on Physical Disabilities which meets quarterly.

Anthonette also informed the DAC that she authored the Bureau of Community Financial Assistance's (CFA) guidance for grants given to municipalities for the construction of facilities. She specified the differences between DNR and ADA standards.

Anthonette informed the Council that the Forestry Expo Center in Wauwatosa wants to build an accessible trail.

Next, Anthonette explained some of the major projects she is working on and they include:

- 1) Oconto Marsh Wildlife Area - viewing platform issue
- 2) Eldorado Marsh Wildlife Area - remodeling the Educational Center
- 3) McMiller Shooting Range – necessary concrete work on ranges
- 4) Silver Lake Public Access – accessible walkway to boat landing
- 5) Harrington Beach State Park – the Friends Group is building an accessible cabin
- 6) Potawatomi State Park – the shower bench came loose from the wall and they are now using a small unstable one

Regarding the accessible cabins, Anthonette said that some of the older cabins need new roofs and new floors. There is \$20,000 in Capital development funds for all 7 cabins to share for cabin improvement projects. A standard plan for the new cabins is available from Miller Engineering.

Anthonette volunteered at the Fishing Has No Boundaries (FHNB) event in July in Madison. There were 97 participants (can take up to 100) out on the lake. The FHNB Milwaukee will be on August 23rd.

Werner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Martinson seconded and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30.