



# Wauwatosa, WI

## Commission for Persons with Disabilities

### Meeting Minutes - Final

7725 W. North Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

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Wednesday, January 8, 2025

7:00 PM

Zoom Only:  
<https://servetosa.zoom.us/j/81064748721>,  
Meeting ID: 810 6474 8721

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#### Regular Meeting

#### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

#### ROLL CALL

**Present 8**      Member Heather Birk  
Member, Co-Chair Mary Callen  
Member, Co-Chair Elizabeth (BJ) Ermenc  
Member Scott Seis  
Member Maddie Stencel  
Member Mary Walz-Chojnacki  
Aldersperson Liaison Joseph Makhoulf II  
Member Nancy Hall

**Excused 1**      Member Julia Murphy

*Laurie Laurishke, present*  
*Deb Falk-Palec, present*  
*Kathy Erickson, present*  
*Stacy Klemm, present*

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the minutes of the December 4, 2024, regular meeting [25-0014](#)

*Approved unanimously, with an amendment request from BJ to add that a motion to approve expenditures for the commission's use at community events was passed unanimously in December. December minutes will be amended.*

**RESULT:**      APPROVED

**Aye: 7**      Birk, Callen, Ermenc, Seis, Stencel, Walz-Chojnacki, Makhoulf II, and Hall

**Excused: 1**      Murphy

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Update on Tosa schools [25-0015](#)

*Stacy Klemm introduced Kathy Erickson, the transition coordinator for Tosa schools, who introduced*

*herself and spoke about her work with securing transportation for the Next Steps program. The district has decided to use the Educational Assistants to provide transportation for these students. This will be discussed at the Parent's CORE meeting this month.*

*On Jan. 26, 2025, the Parent's Leaders group and families will meet at Whitman Middle School from 2-6. On Feb. 12, the district Resource Fair will be held at West High School from 6-8 pm. 35 vendors will attend to offer information about services, recreational opportunities etc.*

*The district is also participating with the Milwaukee County Transition Action committee and the C-transition group to look at Indicator 14 which measures success upon graduation by looking employment and other factors. A Jan. 16 a workshop will be held on the topic of Adult Benefits from 6-7:30pm for those families with a rising young adult.*

*Other programs are planned to provide information on Children's Long-term waivers, supports for neurodiverse learners, Post-Secondary opportunities, and transportation. Kathy is working with Tosa businesses to look for opportunities for internships and employment.*

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

2. Update on Health Dept. Isolation project [24-1705](#)

**RESULT: HELD**

3. Update on email/voice mails [24-1706](#)

*Scott Seis will monitor email and bring any matters to the attention of BJ, Mary Callen and Mary Walz-Chojnacki. Scott will return a call for any voice mails and bring the matter to the attention of the commission. Our commission is the only commission with an city email and city phone number so that we may respond to inquiries from citizens.*

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

4. Zoom option and e-comments at all city meetings [25-0016](#)

*The commission believes that in the interest of clear and transparent communication, every meeting should be assigned a zoom option and e-comment opportunity. Also, we advocate that an email associated with each commission and committee be created so that citizens have the opportunity to have their voices heard. We also encourage recording of city meetings which will be posted on the city website.*

*A motion was made and accepted unanimously to create a subcommittee to address this. Mary Walz-Chojnacki will work with Alder Mahklouf, Laura Laurishke and Nancy Hall will prepare a statement to this effect, and connect with Zach Kessler at city hall.*

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

5. Commission purchases [25-0017](#)

*Commission purchases have been made which include a wagon, two chairs, safety tape and office supplies to be used at community events. Receipts will be send to city hall.*

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

6. Tosa Schools Inclusion Resource Fair- Feb 12, 2025 [25-0018](#)

*The fair will be held on Feb. 12, 2025 at West HS. BJ, Mary Callen, Mary Walz-Chojnacki and possibly Alder Mahklouf will attend.*

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

7. Updates from other civic groups [25-0019](#)

*Nancy Hall reported that the main topic for Equity and Inclusion is housing. Mary Walz-Chojnacki represents our commission at the Joint Housing collaborative group where housing is considered. Deb mentioned that public listening sessions are scheduled for the Moss Universal Park on Wisconsin Ave.*

**RESULT:** INFORMATIONAL ONLY

8. Topics for next meeting [25-0020](#)

*Topics for next meeting include investigating name tags and business cards, the commission's FB page including getting more information about the legalities around online communication.*

**RESULT:** INFORMATIONAL ONLY

**ALDERMANIC COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORT**

1. Aldermanic updates [25-0021](#)

*Alder Mahklouf reported that the Comprehensive Plan moves along with continuing input from the public. The Civic Celebration Commission wishes to have a statement from us regarding our plans for 2025 civic celebrations with regard to the sensory friendly zone.*

*Legislative Issues will be renamed- Governmental Activities in the future. Mary mentioned that BPDD has sponsored webinars focused on potential changes to Medicaid under the Trump administration.*

**RESULT:** INFORMATIONAL ONLY

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.*