

SPIL Transportation Meeting Agenda

04-12-22

Attendees

Chair: Greg York

Co-Chair: Christina Blair

Presenter: Peter Johnke

Adam Burnett

Harley Anderson

Diana Clanton

Michelle Walker

Tammy Fuhr

Keyna Steinbrock

Suzanne Jahn

1. Announcements and Changing of SPIL Group Leadership: Greg announced that he was stepping down and named me (Christina Blair) his successor. I took over the meeting and announce that Diana Clanton would be taking over the Co-Chair position.

2. Quick Group Introductions and Introduction of Keynote Speaker: Peter Johnke Chair of the NCIL Transportation Subcommittee as well as the Representative for the disability community with the Vermont Public Transit Advisory Council.

3. Notes on Speakers Presentation:

1. Peter talked about his involvement in NCIL and Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL).

i. Air Travel: Mentioned the U.S. Department of Transportation's Public Information meeting on March 4th, 2022. He talked about what was discussed in that meeting. Information and recording of meeting and be found here:

<https://www.transportation.gov/individuals/aviation-consumer-protection/public-meeting-air-travel-persons-who-use-wheelchairs>

ii. Working on Bill of Rights for Air Travel

2. Next Peter moved on to Ride Shares (Uber, Lyft, Via etc.)

- i. Many do not provide handicapped accessible vehicles. In a New York court case the company tried to say that they were not a transportation company but a tech company. Court ruled they had to provide a number of handicap accessible vehicles. The company is doing only the bare minimum to comply with ruling.
- ii. NCIL is filing to have cases like this be viewed as a class action lawsuit.

3. Medicaid NEMT:

- i. Talked about issues with cross county transportation via Medicaid there in Vermont. Customer needs waiver if doctor/facility is more than 60 miles from customer's home.
 1. Talked about a case where Medicaid paid for a ride to pick up medication but since customer picked up a gallon of milk while they were there Medicaid refused to pay the transportation provider. (Greg made a comment about how unbelievable that was. Asked to keep us updated in the outcome of cases.)
 2. Peter mentioned a Transportation event: September 12-16th, 2022 as well as a transportation session on April 13th that covers non-Medicaid covered transportation.

4. Autonomous Vehicles:

- i. AAPD and We Will Ride is working with manufacturing facilities on making sure vehicles are accessible from the planning and manufacturing stages instead of after the fact.

5. State level transportation:

- i. Peter talked with us about public transit in Vermont around the capital. He mentioned that after talking with the powers-at-be that they were able to use some of the highway funds for updates to public transit.
- ii. I asked him about after hours and weekend transportation as that is an issue that we have locally.
 1. He talked to us about an on-demand/public transit service two-year pilot program that they had put in place to work in conjunction with the public transit system. They

are hoping that they can expand to work not only during regular operating hours but extend those hours to later and weekends.

4. Open for questions/comments for Keynote Speaker.

1. Suzanne Jahn talked about an experience she had with Medicaid transportation issue with having multiple appointments with doctors in the same building. She was told they have to be at least seven (7) hours apart or on different days.
2. We talked with Peter about Medicaid transportation issues with going across state lines. Peter talked about being in Vermont which is a primarily rural area and the closest hospital is actually in New Hampshire so that is something that they deal with.

5. Open discussion of any transportation topic.

A. Open discussion: No new transportation topics of discussion.

B. Talked about finding speaker for next meeting.

C. Mentioned letter/ talking points are on the website: www.spiltrans.org

a. Don't forget to follow SPIL Transportation social media.

i. www.spiltrans.org

ii. <https://www.facebook.com/SPILTrans>

iii. <https://twitter.com/spiltrans>

iv. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbPmob9h1p-2VS3IU5dcGCA>

D. Tentative Meeting Dates for 2022:

- July 12
- Oct. 11
- All will be at 10 am CST.