

Long-Term Care Council Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2026
10:00 am – 11:30 am

Meeting was held virtually through WebEx.

Voting Members in Attendance:

Director Mary Killough
Lori Hendren
Marsha Johnson
Bruce Carmona
Karin Zosel
Scott Mitchell
Stacey Aschemann
Melinda McDonald
Julia Preston
Karin Zosel

Director Mary Killough called meeting to order at 10:03am.

Kelly Richards (Illinois State Ombudsman office) called the roll call – We have quorum of 10 members present.

Old Business

- A. Review of previous meeting minutes of October 7, 2025.
 - I. Change date from June 9, 2026, to June 2, 2026
 - II. Corrections: Teresa Parks (Illinois Guardian and Advocacy) - now has training available for guardians of the person and guardians over of the estate.
 - III. Voted to approve corrections for October 7, 2026, minutes. A motion to approve corrections for October 7, 2026, minutes was made by Marsha Johnson and Stacy Aschemann second the motion.
- B. Vacant co-chair position, nominations needed – No one volunteered – Director stated for everyone to think about it, and it will be discussed at the next meeting.
- C. Discuss priority goals- Kelly Richards
 - 1. CNA Training – Advocating for long-term care
 - 2. Legislative solutions for problems identified in LTC – Director Killough stated we do not have any time for this upcoming legislative session but for next year 2027 – She requested for everyone to bring their ideas for the next meeting.
 - 3. Advocate for person-centered care in LTC

New Business

A. IDoA Update – Director Killough

- a. February is a busy month - IDoA is preparing the budget presentation to the Governor's office.
- b. IDoA completed and filed our new multisector plan on Aging. We filed by the deadline of December 2025 – a 10-year plan. The plan brings a large group of individuals to come together. Review the plan at website:
<https://ilaging.illinois.gov/forprofessionals/multi-sector-plan-for-aging/engaging-illinois.html>

B. IDPH Update – Jonathan Harwood

- a. Updates currently as a pause for regularly work – QSO26-04-ALL
- b. Working with reorganization still – new hires – working on filling open positions in Springfield and Chicago areas.
- c. For those interested, here is where you find IDPH's surveys for nursing homes:
https://ilcs.dph.illinois.gov/s/facility-lookup?language=en_US
- d. Most frequently sighted surveyor issues Ftag#s F689, F880, F600, & F684 – Information can be found at - Quality certification and oversight reports: website: https://ilcs.dph.illinois.gov/s/facility-lookup?language=en_US_quality

Questions:

1. What are Ftags? Federal tags are statement of deficiencies given to facilities on thing to update. A list of regulatory tags is listed on their website listed above.
2. Stephen Maxwell – requesting a new map of surveyors – Jonathan will provide an update version
3. Director Killough - funding for nursery homes fines, collected by IDPH. What is the money going to be used for? Jonathan stated that money from the Civil Reimbursement Monetary Penalty Funds (CRMP funds) is collected by the department resulting from a regulatory deficiency, then a portion of that money goes into account and IDPH is responsible for administering these funds.
 - a. How do I apply for it? – Jonathan will provide Director and Kelly more information.
 - b. Per Kelly and Lee – We were able to use some of these funds previously for the Illinois Pioneer Coalition for training within the area agencies.
4. Elisa Hamilton (Attorney General office) – What is the Process for the Plan of action? The department provider will review it and follow-up by a supervisor/reviewer. They will work with the administration establishment on acceptable plan of correction once accepted then we will either do a certain level deficiencies review and order on site implement. How long does the facility have to make corrections? 180 days to stop deficiencies. How can her office receive the termination letter or plan of corrections letter? Jonathan state to reach out to their

compliance department.

C. Updates from AARP Illinois – Lori Hendren (Senior Associate State Director) –

- a. SB3811 – working with Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy commission – strengthening protection for adults with disabilities in the state hospital, primary looking at Chicago Tribune’s 3-part series article that talked about adults and really draining seniors bank accounts. Ongoing conversation with lawmakers and other agencies.
- b. Income tax credit - advocating for this.
- c. Utility teams – having public hearings and looking into rate increases.
- d. Fact sheets – on IDoA Multisector plan, Ombudsman program and other important programs.

D. IDoA Legislative Update –

- a. Jessica Belsly (LTCOP Ombudsman specialist) - Three legislative bills for 2026
 - i. Electronic Monitoring in Assisted Living
HB 4517 – Rep. Ann Williams
SB 3017 – Sen. Graciela Guzman
 - ii. Assisted Living Mandated Reporting - Closing the Mandated Reporting Loophole
HB 4700 – Rep. Anne Stava
SB 3179 – Sen. Kimberly Lightford
 - iii. Long Term Care Notice to Ombudsman of Facility Closure
HB 5047 – Rep. Anna Moeller
SB 2939 – Sen. Adriane Johnson
- b. Bresha Brewer – IDoA legal
 - i. SB4767 – filed yesterday 2/2/2026 – supported by Representative Stewart - Bill the Adult protections for mandate reporter – financial institutions and broker dealers. Adult Protective Services (APS) – financial exploration is on the rise and this bill help stop this. Lori Hendren from AARP is willing to support this bill.
 - ii. Governors’ budget address is Feb. 18, 2026, deadline to get bills out to committee is March 13, 2026.

E. State LTC Ombudsman Program Updates- Kelly Richards/Lee Moriarty

- a. Updates on the Consumer Choice website – DoIT and Stephen Maxwell have been working on updating the website. It will go live next month. Communication will be listed on the website when it is down for updates.
- b. Promote Safety and emergency preparedness as the State initiative plan for Y2026.
- c. Resident and Family Support Council on the 4th Tuesday of every month - This year, Lee will be having family members be a part of the conversation. Last year’s topics were based on the residents’ voices. Lee showed a 4-minute video of residents expressing their view. (Video can be reviewed on the [LTCO YouTube Channel](#).)

- d. Webinar series will start in June 2026 - We are partnering with the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission to conduct a series of webinars on understanding guardianship, advance directives, and understanding supported decision making. There will be two sets of trainings – one for the residents and families and the other geared towards provider. The training will be free. There will be two different training Web series, one for residents, families, and the general public and the other training sessions are for providers.
- e. Lee Moriarty (SLTCO Deputy) future speaking engagements:
 - i. Residents can make decisions for themselves – March 25, 2026 – Lee is speaking with AgeSmart on staff retention.
 - ii. June 2026 – Webinar series with Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy and IDPH.
 - iii. August 2026 – Topic: Adverse Reactions – the Illinois Pioneer Coalition.
 - iv. October 2026 – Topic: Discharged planners – Illinois Activity Association in Bloomington, IL – patients are being dropped and unable to go back to their home.

Agency Updates

F. Update from State Agency Representatives -

Lisa (HFS) – business as usually.

Elisa Hamilton – Fraud in Medicaid program – two unrelated people living together – they investigate them. They are hiring and very busy. Looking forward to collaborating with LTCOP.

Teresa Parks (Illinois Advocacy and Guardianship) –

- Any newly appointed estate guardian must take their new training course effectively January 1, 2026. Links for Guardianship training: <https://gac.illinois.gov/osg/guardianshiptrainings.html>
- Bill proposal: expanding decision making to all adults including to All Adults including Seniors- she does not have bill number yet but will provide once it is available.

Molly Chapman – no updates at this time

Ashley Bae – Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (former know as Mental Health) – no updates at this time.

Comments:

Scott Mitchell – stated he was interviewed by Lee for the resident and family support council and he liked the questions and appreciated that he was a part of the conversation.

Stacy Aschemann motion to end the meeting at 11:33am and Marsha Johnson second the motion.

Kelly adjourned the meeting at 11:25am. Next meeting is June 2, 2026.

