

Disability Awareness Commission  
Minutes  
Human Relations Conference Room, City Hall  
January 19, 2011 3:00pm

**Call to Order**

Co-chairperson Carmichael called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM.

Commission members present: Travis Arneson, Patty Brooks, Peggy Carmichael, Misty Farabee, Ardell Fiedler, Nancy Johnson, Vicki Nelson, and Lynda O'Connor-Ohayon.

Commission members absent: Ted Ornas - resigned

Staff present: Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant

Guest(s) present:

**Welcome Guests**

**Approval of Minutes**

**Farabee moved to approve the December 15, 2010, meeting minutes; Brooks seconded. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.**

**Continuing Business**

Hotel Survey Update – Brooks reported

The Committee did a spot check of the Holiday Inn Downtown City Centre and reported what they found. Now we need to decide what to do with the information that is gathered from spot checks. They will do another spot check before they decide.

The Committee will decide how they want to let the hotels know if the spot checks find any concerns so the hotels can take action to fix them. They will also come up with a rating system as to the level of accessibility each of those who responded meets.

Some kind of a disclaimer about meeting ADA requirements and the fact it is a self survey and has not been reviewed by an appropriate agency to ensure compliance with the ADA needs to be drafted. Staff will research.

At the January HRC meeting one of the Commissioners asked about accessibility of bars/restaurants. Farabee told them that project will follow the hotel survey project.

ArtAbility 2011– Johnson reported

The Committee updated the call for art to reflect the dates for this year. The dates have been confirmed with all the parties involved. (MoVM, SD Achieve, etc) The text is now being put with the graphics and then will be posted on the website. The Sioux Empire Arts Council has changed its name and is changing their website. We will get their new logo for the call, but not include their website.

Awareness Training – Fiedler reported.

The Committee would like to provide at least one business training and maybe a conference with one or both of the hospitals. Their goal is to provide a school training every other year and hopefully get one into the middle schools. They would also like to do the Diversity Conference every other year (this would be the year).

They will be contacting the SD Safety Council about participate in the SD Safety & Health Conference on September 28, 2011. NDEAM has participated with this in the past.

Fiedler has reconnected with Chuck Taylor who was on a past panel. Chelle Hart, Teresa Nold, and Vicki Kerkvliet are all interested in continuing on the panel. Another past participant was Tom Kober with CSD.

Gas Station Stickers – Arneson reported that the committee hasn't met yet

ADA Resource Library – Carmichael reported that she called the library, but hasn't been contacted back. Staff will send library contact information to her for the Siouxland Libraries. Arneson provided the contact information for the Wegner Medical Library at the Center for Disabilities.

## **New Business**

### **Election of Officers**

The Commission selected a slate of officers at their December meeting. They are Co-Chairs Carmichael and Farabee and third officer Nelson.

Brooks moved to accept the proposed slate of officers, Johnson seconded. The officers were elected by unanimous vote.

A side note regarding Commissioner Ornas. He did contact staff and resigned. A news release went out from the Mayor's office seeking applications. Fiedler reported that Julie Briggs is planning on applying. Staff suggested that a memo be sent to the Mayor with the DAC's recommendation to include the reappointment of Nelson.

## **HRC Report**

Human Relations Manager Colwill's last day on the job will be Friday, January 21, 2011.

The HRC is working on marketing ideas. They reviewed the video that will air on CH.16. They decided on a tag line for their marketing ideas: "Leading the Fight Against Discrimination".

## **Public Comment**

### **Adjournment**

Having no further business, Brooks moved and Farabee seconded to adjourn; the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2011 @ 3:00pm, HRC Conference Room, First Floor, City Hall.

Minutes submitted by Carol Garry.