

Disability Awareness Commission

Notes

Second Floor Meeting Room

May 16, 2007 3:00pm

Call to Order

No quorum – no official actions taken.

Commission members present: Brad Friez, Mary Hurd, Ardell Fiedler, and Brett Johnson.

Commission members absent: Amy Pokela

Staff present: Carol Garry

Guest(s) present: Mayor Dave Munson, Peggy Carmichael, Nancy Johnson, Patty Brooks, Misty Farabee, Julie Becker, Donna Menzia, Cindy Stewart, and Jenneil Watkins.

Approval of Minutes

The April 18, 2007, minutes will be approved at the June 20, 2007, meeting. Mayor Munson presented the service awards to the retiring commissioners. The cake was served and the retirees left.

Continuing Business

NOD Award – Plan for Action – Commissioner Friez was assigned to gather information regarding employment of people with disabilities compared to those without disabilities. He had stats from the last two quarters.

Cindy Stewart was invited to come and discuss what resources she can provide for the 2007 application. She will come back in August with statistics and success stories about what has been done employment-wise to bring people with disabilities into the job market. Along those lines the NDEAM group will have a booth at this fall's SHRM conference.

Friez also mentioned that Randy Williams is interested in being involved with the City's emergency preparedness team. Working on the emergency preparedness issue can lead to an educational opportunity outside of the NOD's award. We could provide information to business on consideration emergency evacuations etc of their residents or employees with disabilities.

Tourism is another issue highlighted. A project in this area could be creating a resource guide for people with disabilities who are traveling to Sioux Falls or relocating here. This could be something the Chamber of Commerce or the Conventions/Visitor's Bureau.

With the focus on the three main areas, we decided to have Commissioners decide which area they had an interest or expertise. Fiedler will work on the organization of information as it is gathered; Hurd and Farabee will take on the emergency preparedness; Cindy Stewart will work with Johnson, Friez, and Johnson; we will assign Pokela to the tourism issue. Ryan Green would like to be involved and staff will ask if he wants to work with Pokela on the tourism issue.

ADA Celebration Planning – print media subcommittee. The two updated posters were reviewed. The overall consensus was to go with the more colorful choice. We will keep the plainer one for emailing. We will update the posters with the correct/needed information when it is available.

New Business

Road to Freedom – the Road to Freedom is a portable history of the ADA. This year it will be at the Empire Mall on July 6, 2007. Paralyzed Veterans of America and the National MS Society will be sharing a table and the DAC has been invited to have some literature available at their table. We will provide some copies of the parking survey, an ADA Celebration poster and the NOD poster.

Public Comment

No public comment

Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2007, @ 3:00pm, City Hall, Second Floor Meeting Room.

Action items: Invite Chamber representative and Ryan Green to next meeting.

Minutes submitted by Carol Garry.