

Disability Awareness Commission

Minutes

Human Relations Conference Room

September 17, 2008 3:00pm

Call to Order

Co-chairperson Fiedler called the meeting to order at 3:07 PM.

Commission members present: Patty Brooks, Peggy Carmichael, Misty Farabee, Ardell Fiedler, Brad Friez, and Nancy Johnson.

Commission members absent: Brett Johnson, Amy Pokela and Mary Hurd.

Staff present: Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant and Gary Colwill, Human Relations Manager/ADA Coordinator.

Guest(s) present:

Welcome Guests

Approval of Minutes

Agenda items added: under Continuing Business – NDEAM; under New Business – Diversity Council Conference and future guest.

Brooks moved to approve the August 20, 2008, meeting minutes; Carmichael seconded. The meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Continuing Business

NOD Award Update – It is difficult to move forward on this until we have this year's application. Members are asked to keep working on their assignments. As a reminder the assignments are:

Garry: proofing/editing & Promoting Accessibility (board/officials info)

Farabee: Emergency Management

Pokela: Promoting Participation

Fiedler/Friez: Employability

Brooks: Communicating a Welcoming Attitude - drafted

Brooks: Inspiring Others

Carmichael/N. Johnson: Other

Demographics: Should be the same as previous year since a new census hasn't been done since 2000.

Hotel Guide – Pokela was going to check to see when the next CVB meeting would be when the DAC/Hotel Guide could be added to their agenda. No word yet. This will give us time to review the final document with the City ADA Coordinator and members of that subcommittee.

People First Language Awareness Letter – Original thought was to send a letter to the media outlets as an educational/awareness project. A better idea is to create a pamphlet that we could use for other informational situations and then add a letter when we send them out. Fiedler, N. Johnson, Friez, and Farabee will act as a committee to put something together. Initially the committee will forward via email their top 5-10 ideas to Farabee and she will pull them together. Fiedler will draft a cover letter. We can use some of the '09 budget money to get them printed.

NDEAM – this committee will have a booth at the SHRM and SD Safety Council's conference on October 14, 2008, at the Arena/Convention Center. The DAC provided 500 handouts for the event.

New Business

Focus on Success – SBVI is sponsoring this event – September 30, October 1 & 2, 2008, at the Ramkota. Ole Kantos is the keynote speaker. The focus is on blindness issues and will involve consumers and local and outside talent. Fiedler will forward more information.

Membership Opening – Ted Ornas has contacted Fiedler about joining the Commission. There are no current openings, but he can fill out an application and send it in to the Mayor's office and then his application will be considered when an opening is available.

Diversity Council Conference – SBVI is considering having a vendor booth at this event, Tuesday, November 11 – Veteran's Day at the Washington Pavilion. Any other DAC member agency interested can share the booth. Maybe the DAC can have the People First Language pamphlet done by then.

Future Guest – Garry related that Corky Miles, Metro Communications Director is interested in attending a meeting. He wants to include people with disabilities in Metro's recruitment. Friez will forward the job description to the Commission and they can see if people they serve meet the qualifications. He was unable to attend this meeting; we'll invite him again for the October meeting.

HRC Report

The Human Relations Commission didn't have their regular monthly meeting in September. Instead they met to review the nominations for the Humanitarian Award. The event is September 23, 2008, and the DAC have all been invited. One of the DAC members has been nominated – Brad Friez. Pokela represented the DAC at the meeting. Garry reported.

Public Comment

Colwill asked if any of the Commission would like to attend the BLN's Symon Award luncheon on October 14, 2008, at 11:30 am at the Holiday Inn City Centre. The City has a table for eight.

Adjournment

Having no further business, Friez moved to adjourn; N. Johnson seconded; the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2008, @ 3:00pm, Human Relations Conference Room, City Hall.

Action Plan for October 15, 2008:

- Draft of People First Language pamphlet
- Hotel Guide reviewed and ready to go
- Keep checking for the NOD application
- Invite Corky Miles to the meeting.

Minutes submitted by Carol Garry.