

Disability Awareness Commission

Minutes

Human Relations Conference Room, City Hall

October 21, 2009 3:00pm

Call to Order

Co-chairperson Fiedler called the meeting to order at 3:08 PM.

Commission members present: Peggy Carmichael, Misty Farabee, Ardell Fiedler, Nancy Johnson, Vicki Nelson, Lynda O'Connor-Ohayon, and Ted Ornas

Commission members absent: Travis Arneson and Patty Brooks,

Staff present: Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant

Guest(s) present: Ryan Green, NCCPVA

Welcome Guests

Ryan Green, PVA

Approval of Minutes

Carmichael moved to approve the September 16, 2009, meeting minutes; Nelson seconded. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Continuing Business

Awareness Training Committee Report – Nelson presented.

- Feel DAC should limit their involvement to quarterly training or four per year.
- Limit to the Sioux Falls area; if outside Sioux Falls, contact Nelson or Green
- One month notification of pending training; but will be flexible
- Contact Committee or staff about possible trainings

Need to recruit other panel members – criteria:

- Employed = good candidates and role models
- Hidden disability = mental health disability
- Traumatic Brain Injury

Remember to request a biography from the person you ask, give them the standard three questions to help them plan what to say; though these may change depending on the audience. Let the Committee know when you find someone who is interested in being a panel member.

We discussed charging a fee for the DAC to provide training. This is not what we want to do. We aren't set up with the capability of handling money and then we'd have to consider venue costs etc. Ryan will charge for his travel and if other panel members need to be reimbursed for their travel, they can arrange it.

The Committee is working on future trainings. November 18, 2009, is a panel presentation at the Diversity Conference. Jim with the Statewide Independent Council

(intellectual disability) will join Vicki Kerkvliet, Chelle Hart and Theresa Nold on the panel. The presentation is 10:55 – 12:10. Nelson will make evaluations for the session and Ted will facilitate. We should prepare a small presentation about the DAC - who, what do we do, etc. Also would need questions appropriate for the audience. For example: What makes you feel involved in the community? The Committee will follow up with creating the questions and the presentation about the DAC.

Fiedler took the evals from the recent housing training and will put together a summary.

2009 Projects Update –

Art Exhibit –ARTability

Reviewing the call for art we found it not very easy to read. We should make our edits soon in order to get it out in a timely manner.

We discussed limiting the submissions to one piece. We decided to let it go because if there are more pieces than the gallery can hold, we will split the display between the two months and we can reserve the right to limit how many per artist we display.

Raised garden bed project – We are in the process of getting three bids per the City's purchasing process. We were concerned about changes they have planned for the area which led us to a meeting with the Parks dept. on 11/4. Staff will check to find out if we can still spend the money this year or if it would be better to wait until next year.

Spring will work for SALSA to do the project since it doesn't look like we will get it done this fall and no other group has shown an interest.

Hotel Guide Update - postponed until December meeting as no further information has been received.

New Business

November 18, 2009 monthly meeting – Most of the members will be at the November 18th Diversity Conference and will not be available for a meeting. We will cancel the November meeting. Most things needing attention can be handled at the committee level with anything major sent in an email to the group.

Accessible America Award – the Forward Sioux Falls 2009 Report to Investors has a blurb about Sioux Falls placing in the finals of the Accessible America Award for the third year in a row. There has been nothing on the NOD's website about next year's award or the application.

2010 Census – Fiedler reported that Jeff Schmitz, Asst. Director of Planning/Zoning has information on the 2010 census that we might be interested in and with the group's approval, will invite him to the next meeting.

HRC Report

Farabee reported that the HRC failed to have quorum so no official business was conducted. The HRC was told about the new Business Resource Network that has

evolved from the Business Leadership Network. The group is looking for an executive director and working on funding for the office.

Public Comment

Ornas reported on contact with the local Walgreens. They are interested in getting involved with the community. Ornas thought having a booth at upcoming events would be a step in that direction. He will try to get them registered for a booth at the Diversity Conference.

Adjournment

Having no further business, Farabee moved and Carmichael seconded to adjourn; the meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2009, @ 3:00pm, HRC Conference Room, First Floor, City Hall.

Minutes submitted by Carol Garry.