

Disability Awareness Commission

Minutes

Human Relations Conference Room, City Hall

March 16, 2011 3:00pm

Call to Order

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

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

Commission members absent: Travis Arneson, Patty Brooks and Ardell Fiedler

Staff present: Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant, Colleen Moran, Human Relations Manager/ADA Coordinator

Guest(s) present:

Welcome Guests

Staff introduced Colleen Moran who is the new Human Relations Manager/ADA Coordinator. Roundtable introductions of the DAC were made.

Approval of Minutes

Johnson asked to amend the minutes from the February 16th meeting to show under ArtAbility that contact has been made with SD Achieve and the new contract needs to be signed by July. **O'Connor moved to approve the February 16, 2011, meeting minutes as amended; Nelson seconded. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as amended.**

Continuing Business

Hotel Survey Update – Farabee reported

Farabee and Carmichael reviewed Ramkota Hotel's survey and did a walkthrough of the hotel.

The next step is to figure out a useable rating schedule. Their plan is to walkthrough one out of every ten surveys submitted. So far, 19-20 surveys were submitted and they have done the required two walkthroughs. They will send letters to the venue's they've reviewed to let them know what they've found and if anything needs to be corrected.

ArtAbility 2011– no meeting

The only thing to report is that Fiedler contacted Achieve's Inspirations – jewelry to confirm their interest in participating again this year.

PSA exposure on KELO TV this year will not be as great given the event is being held during a busy time for retail advertising, but with the \$5000 grant we will still get some viewers.

Awareness Training – no meeting.

Gas Station Stickers – Arneson reported via phone message.

Fuel Call is a company that has a patent on a system that alerts gas station attendants when someone needs refueling assistance. Arneson has contacted them, but has not heard back. Contact was made with Texaco and Conoco, no replies received. The committee is planning on sending letters to the gas stations about using the gas sticker program.

ADA Resource Library – no meeting.

Carmichael has not heard back from the Main Library yet. Arneson has not forwarded the promised catalog with disability resources. Farabee has books on Down syndrome she would like to donate.

New Business

NDEAM - Nelson reported

The NDEAM group would like an in kind sponsorship of printing materials for the October 2011 conference and the assistance of the City's graphic designer in creating the printed materials.

HRC Report

The HRC chose the design for the outside of the bus poster and billboard. Other marketing plans include an informational meeting with the City Council, a Listening and Learning session with the Mayor, and taping for the Hispanic TV show "La Voz Hispana".

They also discussed the Fair Housing report, "Analysis of the Impediments to Fair Housing" - the most common impediments identified are: credit background, criminal history, and transportation.

Three members of the HRC have terms ending June 1, 2011, and they discussed recruiting new members who are interested in the goals of the HRC and are willing to put in time and effort to reach those goals.

Public Comment

Help!Line - 2011 Spirit of Volunteerism Nominees and Winners luncheon, Tuesday, May 3, 2011, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel. RSVP by April 22, 2011, to 274-1400. Tickets are \$20 per person, \$160 for a table of eight.

"Spread the Word to End the Word" – email received asking if there is an event or public place where they could set up a table to promote social acceptance. The campaign is about people with disabilities and the importance of recognizing the beauty in them in order to create a more inclusive society that allows them to achieve their full potential.

Staff will contact them to ask if they have contacted other agencies in Sioux Falls, if so who? Also, what are they expecting from us and if their June 20th date is flexible.

Polar Plunge - Freezin' for a Reason – April 16th at the Country Inn & Suites, fundraiser for Special Olympics. \$100 needs to be pledged in order to 'plunge'.

Adjournment

Having no further business, Farabee moved and Johnson seconded to adjourn; the meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2011 @ 3:00pm, location to be determined.

Minutes submitted by Carol Garry.