


MINUTES	Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.	
Disability Awareness and Accessibility Review Board Meeting	City Hall Commission Room 224 W. 9 th Street Sioux Falls, South Dakota or by teleconference at 1-408-418-9388, Access Code 187 118 6391##	

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tana Zwart. Morgan Jackson, Carolyn Ly-Donovan, Sarah Jorgensen present virtually. Nicholas Kummer and Kati Seymour not present.

STAFF PRESENT: Sharla Svenes and Lyndsey Meier

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m.

ADOPT THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Ly-Donovan and seconded by Zwart to adopt agenda. Motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Jorgensen and seconded by Zwart to approve the minutes from June 2021 meeting. Motion passed by a vote of 4-0.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Guest Speaker: Vicki Stewart, Executive Director of Business Resource Network (BRN):** BRN is a nonprofit organization that promotes employment of people with disabilities in the local workforce. BRN started in 2010 and provides businesses with education, awareness, and resources to promote successful employment of people with disabilities. BRN offers a wide range of services including advisement on ADA reasonable accommodations. BRN’s largest awareness program, the Disability Friendly Recognition Program, started in 2013 as a partnership with the City’s Disability Awareness Commission and recognizes local businesses that employ at least one person with a disability. At the onset, BRN recognized 14 local businesses and today that list has grown to 215 businesses. BRN has seen the importance of recognizing and celebrating businesses that see and utilize the potential and capabilities of those with disabilities. BRN would like to continue working with the Disability Awareness and Accessibility Review Board to promote the Disability Friendly Recognition Program. Jorgensen

said the City's past partnership with BRN has been a great experience allowing the community to identify and recognize businesses who employ individuals with disabilities. Nominations for recognition are open to the public and the sole eligibility requirement is hiring someone with a disability. Zwart moved to continue partnership with BRN and motion passed 4-0.

- B. **Guest Speaker: Sam Trebilcock, City Planning and Development Services:** Trebilcock discussed public transportation and talked about Sioux Area Metro (SAM) services. They provide twelve fixed route services as well as paratransit services. Paratransit services run within ¼ of a mile of the fixed-route bus service. In December 2020, SAM launched its pilot program, SAM On Demand, which is their Saturday service that allows riders to book rides at the times and stops that are most convenient, rather than waiting for the bus. Right now, SAM On Demand is offering free rides on Saturdays when you book through the app. SAM has seen a significant decrease in ridership last year due to Covid-19, which has been the common trend across the country. Federal regulations still require masks on busses/mass transit. Funding continues to be an issue. SAM received approximately ten million dollars through Covid-19 Federal funds which has helped with short-term operational costs. Covid-19 funds have helped keep them out of the deficit, especially with the vast decline in ridership. Fiscal challenges have prevented them from replacing their fleet and expanding services. Zwart brought up expansion of hours and weekend options and Ly-Donovan inquired about any efforts being made to increase revenue. Trebilcock said they are considering expanding hours and routes as this has been a longstanding issue. SAM continues to explore ways to increase ridership and accessibility.
- C. **Officer Elections:** This item was continued to month's next meeting.
- D. **Update from Marketing, Education, and Public Needs Committee; Artibility Discussion.** Jorgensen provided an update on Artibility stating she spoke with the Museum of Visual Materials and they have availability for April 1, 2022. The venue cost is \$200. They need to secure booking by the end of July. Zwart moved to hold Artibility 2022 at the Museum of Visual Material on April 1, 2022 and motion passed 4-0. Ly-Donovan said she will reach out to Augustana University to potentially help with marketing for upcoming events.
- E. **Update from Transition Plan and Self-Evaluation Committee.** No update at this time.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

None.

REPORT OF ADA COORDINATOR

Two new board members were appointed to DAARB and become official voting members on July 30, 2021; Delores Lipp and Cathleen Zepeda will be joining the board at next month's meeting.

OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION

Discussed updating materials for events and partnerships.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Jorgensen and seconded by Ly-Donovan to adjourn meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

August 25, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Lyndsey Meier
Human Relations Specialist