

Disability Awareness Commission

Minutes

Human Relations Conference Room

January 21, 2009 3:00pm

Call to Order

Co-chairperson Fiedler called the meeting to order at 3:06 PM.

Commission members present: Patty Brooks, Peggy Carmichael, Misty Farabee, Ardell Fiedler, Brad Friez, Nancy Johnson, Vicki Nelson, Ted Ornas (3:30) and Amy Pokela.

Commission members absent:

Staff present: Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant

Guest(s) present: Ryan Green

Welcome Guests

The Commission welcomed Ryan Green from PVA. They also welcomed new board member Vicki Nelson. Vicki was appointed to the DAC at the December 8, 2008, City Council meeting. She is a Senior Vocational Rehab Counselor with the State of SD Division of Rehab Services.

Approval of Minutes

Carmichael moved to approve the December 17, 2008, meeting minutes; Pokela seconded. The meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Election of Officers

A slate of officers was put together at the December 17th meeting. The slate of officers is comprised of Ardell Fiedler and Misty Farabee as Co-Chair and Peggy Carmichael as third officer. **Pokela moved to nominate the slate of officers as presented; Brooks seconded. Officers were elected by unanimous vote.**

Continuing Business

City/County Training – The group discussed what dates would work for the training. Human Resources Manager, Jane Hannestad suggested we consider May as the month to have the trainings. After discussion it was decided that we would work with 3 different dates in May – 19th/20th/21st; with a morning and afternoon session – 9:-10:30 am and 1:30 – 3pm; with the number of days/sessions dependent on how many employees we will be training. Staff will contact Hannestad to get her input.

Hannestad had suggested we use the Orpheum as the venue for the training. If the groups are smaller, we may want to use the actor's studio vs. the theater since it would be more conducive to questions and discussion.

The DAC debated how many people to have on the panel, the length of the program and what would be included. The Commission considered having one representative from each sensory disability (hearing/sight) and one with a physical disability. Including someone with a hidden disability e.g. intellectual disability should also be considered. The 10 Commandments video will be the cornerstone of the program. This lasts roughly 30 minutes. That leaves 1 hour for presentations and Q & A. Ryan Green also has a power point presentation that he uses. It was decided that at our next meeting we would have a synopsis of what the program will be and how many to have on the panel.

The BLN Inclusion Expo will be on March 18, 2009, at the Ramkota Exhibit Hall. Ornas will check on the DAC having a booth (free.) Carmichael and Nelson would be available to cover the booth. The DAC needs to plan what they want to hand out.

New Business

No new business was discussed.

HRC Report

The HRC did not meet in January – no report.

Public Comment

June 12, 2009, the Youth Leadership Forum will be sponsoring a training put on by Richard Pimenthal (Music Within/Windmills) at the Holiday Inn City Centre. The details are not all in place yet – save the date.

Adjournment

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

The next meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2009, @ 3:00pm, HRC Conference Room, First Floor, City Hall.

Minutes submitted by Carol Garry.