

# Disability Awareness Commission

## Minutes

Human Relations Conference Room

February 18, 2009 3:00pm

### Call to Order

Co-chairperson Fiedler called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM.

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

Commission members absent: Amy Pokela

Staff present: Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant

Guest(s) present: Jordan Veurink, CAO intern, Amanda Schreick, SDRC intern and Chris Moench, Pathways

### Welcome Guests

The Commission welcomed Amanda Schreick who is working as an intern with SD Rehab Center and Chris Moench who is here representing Pathways and Jordan Veurink who is working as an intern with the City Attorney Office.

### Approval of Minutes

**Brooks moved to approve the January 21, 2009, meeting minutes; Carmichael seconded. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.**

### Continuing Business

City/County Training Update – Input back from the City and County gave three different timeframes for training with an order of preference – the week of August 31<sup>st</sup>, September 7<sup>th</sup> or June 8<sup>th</sup>. The group decided on September 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, two sessions each day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, at least one hour long, but not more than two hours. Farabee put together some details for the training (see attached.)

Inclusion Expo Booth – The group discussed having their own booth at the Inclusion Expo, sharing the booth and cost with another organization, or just having handouts at someone else's booth. It is hard to justify the expense for a booth for a two hour event with the only benefit being limited exposure – when we can use the money for something that would give us greater exposure. Ornas offered to share his booth space. Nelson will check to see if the State's booth can be set up next to Ornas' which will allow the sharing of personnel to staff the booth. Carmichael and Johnson will be there for the DAC. Staff will put together information we would like to distribute.

Hotel Guide Update – Our contact for the CVB is currently out of the office. The DAC (Brooks) will prepare a 1-2 sentence statement for the web link. It was

promised to be on the website within a month. We are waiting to hear when we will be on the CVB's agenda to make our presentation about the survey/ mailing with Terri Ellis Schmidt's cover letter. Hard copies will be mailed and also be on the CVB's website. The CVB will collect the information from the surveys as the responses are received.

### **New Business**

Pathways – This is a 5013c organization that promotes equal rights and full citizenship for all adults with disabilities in the areas of employment, housing, spiritual life, recreation, lifelong learning, and service. Pathways seeks to educate the community on the benefits of inclusion and demonstrate how individuals can participate in every aspect of life as employees, homeowners, church members, students, volunteers, and friends. They work to promote life plans based on the gifts, needs and passions of the individuals and promote public policy that supports their personal choices relating to their individual life plans. Pathways was created to find ways for adults with disabilities to participate in life activities after they were no longer receiving support or guidance from the school system.

Brochures – Accessible Parking Requirements, DAC, & NDEAM - Currently the DAC has a single page handout with information about the Commission on one side and the other has information about the NOD's Accessible America Award. Since we don't know how we did for the 2009 award we can keep the information about the award and just leave off the year. We can have these done in-house; fifty, two-sided sheets won't cost us extra. We may want to look at a redesign later.

The Accessible Parking Requirements Brochure was created in '02-'03 and was distributed sign companies, engineer and architect firms along with a large number of local businesses. This was a project the DAC worked on back in the spring of 2003 and the brochure states it was prepared by SF Building Services in cooperation with the DAC. The information has been updated and is now ready to have more copies printed. This has been an ongoing effort the past couple of years. The ball was dropped when Jeff Munce left the City's employ last year. Staff is researching the cost and would use the majority of their 2009 budget on this project.

The NDEAM committee has requested that the DAC provide 'People First' brochures and NDEAM handouts for their October seminar again this year. The Commission is willing; we just need to check the budget. The handouts shouldn't be a problem, but we need to consider what the 'People First' brochure will cost depending on how many we have made up and if we do it in house or take it to a printer to do mass quantities.

### **HRC Report**

The HRC is working on revising Chapter 21 1/2 of the City Ordinances to be able to pursue a contract with HUD to process Fair Housing complaints. The revisions need to go before the Mayor and Council for approval before they can continue on.

### **Public Comment**

Friez brought information regarding the CHEER (Consciousness Helps Encourage Equal Respect) program and thought the DAC may want to pursue this as a project of its own. It would involve students most likely at the high school and secondary school level. Students 'adopt' a disability for a day by using a wheelchair, visual impairment goggles, etc. This was on the Kurt Warner website.

### **Adjournment**

Having no further business, Friez moved and Nelson seconded to adjourn; the meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

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

Minutes submitted by Carol Garry.