

Disability Awareness Commission

Minutes

Human Relations Conference Room, City Hall

September 16, 2009 3:00pm

Call to Order

Co-chairperson Farabee called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM.

Commission members present: Travis Arneson, Patty Brooks, Peggy Carmichael, Misty Farabee, Nancy Johnson, Vicki Nelson, Lynda O'Connor-Ohayon, and Ted Ornas

Commission members absent: Ardell Fiedler

Staff present: Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant

Guest(s) present: Carey Deaver, County Director of Human Resources, and Jenny Adix, County Human Resources Generalist.

Welcome Guests

Carey Deaver and Jenny Adix were welcomed.

Approval of Minutes

Brooks moved to approve the August 12, 2009, meeting minutes; Carmichael seconded. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Continuing Business

City/County Training Wrap-up –

Feedback has been positive; maybe should allow more time for questions, include a panel member with a hidden disability.

The County had very positive feedback. To promote the training they talked about it at dept. head meetings and emailed the information to employees. They setup a sign-up on their internal website, but also accepted those who just showed up. They plan on putting the DVD of the training on their internal website for training others who couldn't attend. They would also like to make it available to election workers and museum volunteers.

The Director of Rehab Svcs. asked if we could put together an information packet for voc rehab offices around the state to train city/county employees at their locations. Nelson will put something together.

The group discussed if we wanted to continue to sponsor trainings, if we should charge, and other possible venues like medical field, schools, state offices, etc. Arneson suggested writing a grant to the Office of Developmental Disabilities to help fund the trainings. The money could pay for venue, interpreters, advertising, etc. Nelson suggested using the Business Resources Network (former BLN) as a resource of employers.

A subcommittee was set up to put together a training packet, to discuss how involved the DAC wants to be, find a pool of panelists with disabilities to provide options and so

the same ones don't always have to be involved. The committee is Fiedler, Nelson, Ornas, O'Connor and Johnson.

2009 Projects Update –

Raised garden bed project – Farabee and Garry had a conference call with SALSA. They need a community wide project that would involve 80 students at the beginning of the school year when we want to be able to complete this project. Later in the year the number of students wanes so it may fit the scope of our project better, but it doesn't fit the timeline. We need to have things in place no later than February to get on the garden reservation list for the next growing season.

If we do it this fall, it needs to be before the ground freezes. Farabee received a bid from Menard's for \$211 per bed. Arneson suggested asking the DD Council for a grant to cover material costs.

LHS ROTC also expressed an interest, but no further contact from them after the initial contact. SALSA also suggested the Mayor's Youth Council.

Art Exhibit –ARTability

The committee met with Deb Klebanoff from the Sioux Empire Arts Council to put together a call for art and discuss what else needs to be done to get this off the ground. Garry had concerns about the call for art flyer that was put together. It is very difficult to read. The City's graphic designer will review and offer suggestions. One very noticeable needed change is the city seal; it needs to be round, not oblong.

We will need to create our own database to send out the call to art; it would be great if it were an email database.

Farabee reported that Augie's Friend's Link is willing to put on workshops on how to mount artwork for display at the Museum. Arneson suggested Brenda Smith and Sandy Stocklin would be a good resource for getting artists.

June 24, 2010, 6-8pm would be a possible artist's reception date. It is not a weekend because the venue is used for weddings on weekends.

Hotel Guide Update - Brooks has been contacted by Teri Ellis Schmidt about the guide getting on the CVB website. The will be reassigning it soon.

On another note, Brooks was contacted by the CVB about questions (1-5) they can ask of people submitting their events to www.sfevents.com to designate their ADA accessibility. The group came up with:

- Will ADA accessible restrooms be provided?
- Will there be ADA accessible parking?
- Will the venue be ADA accessible?
- How will ADA accommodations be handled?

New Business

NDEAM – National Disability Employment Awareness Month – will have a booth at the SHRM/SD Safety Council event on October 13, 2009. The DAC is providing People First brochures and the ‘Help Wanted’ handout from last year.

The Diversity Council is having their Diversity Conference on November 18, 2009, at the Multi-Cultural Center. Is anyone interested in sharing a booth? Does the DAC want to be represented? Garry stated that the City is a sponsor, so we should be able to get a booth for the HRC/DAC as part of the sponsorship. She will ask Gary Colwill to confirm. Coordination/details will be discussed at the October 21st DAC meeting.

Johnson asked about the parking survey the DAC sponsors. She picked up a card that directs people to the website to complete an ADA accessible parking survey. That card has been circulating for a few years. Every so often someone fills one out online. Garry shared the few that have been submitted over the past year.

HRC Report

No HRC meeting since the last DAC meeting – no report

Public Comment

No public comment.

Adjournment

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

The next meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2009, @ 3:00pm, HRC Conference Room, First Floor, City Hall.

Minutes submitted by Carol Garry.