

Disability Awareness Commission

Minutes

Human Relations Conference Room, City Hall

March 17, 2010 3:00pm

Call to Order

Co-chairperson Carmichael called the meeting to order at 3:04 PM.

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

Commission members absent: Travis Arneson

Staff present: Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant

Guest(s) present: Brenda Smith, Dare to Dream

Welcome Guests

Brenda Smith was introduced. She is organizing the art show for the Dare to Dream conference in June 14, 2010, in Sioux Falls.

Approval of Minutes

Fiedler moved to approve the February 17, 2010, meeting minutes; Farabee seconded. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Continuing Business

2009 Projects Update –

Art Exhibit –ARTability –

Brenda Smith was asked to meet with us because Dare to Dream is also having an art show in June for people with disabilities and we wanted to get information from her about their show and if there's a way we can work together.

Smith reported that this is their third art show in connection with Dare to Dream. Typically, due to space constraints, they choose ten artists to exhibit from across the state and if an artist has been displayed in the past they aren't eligible to submit for the show again. Smith wanted to know if we would accept artists from outside the Sioux Falls area because she can let the artists that aren't accepted for Dare to Dream art show that they can submit works for ARTability.

Commission members were a little concerned about accepting art from outside our area, but we wouldn't turn anyone away that did. We won't actively seek them though.

Smith did say they would include a flyer about ARTability in their conference packet to let their attendees know about the exhibit as an activity that they could attend.

Smith suggested we phone the groups that we sent emails to and check if the appropriate person is aware of the exhibit. If this is something they want to do the

Commission or the ARTability committee can split up the contact list and make the calls. While they are making contact, they should ask if the group is submitting art, approximately how many pieces will be submitted. This will be helpful since MoVM wants to know if we'll have enough art for both walls or if they need to solicit another group for that time period.

The ARTability committee will be meeting tomorrow, 3/18, at the MoVM at 12:30 pm to go over details. Some details include boutonnieres/corsages for the exhibitors at the reception, providing a program and sending out invitations.

Johnson reported that Accents on Events will substitute a veggie tray with a desert tray.

Farabee reported that Friendslink will present the demonstration on hanging art on April 29th at the MoVM, 6-7:30pm. A small fee for materials will be charged.

Raised Bed Garden Project – Farabee reported

Farabee and Garry met with Jennifer from SALSA, Michelle with the Master Gardeners, and Loren with the Parks & Rec Dept, prior to this meeting.

The current plan is to meet at 10am on Saturday, May 1, 2010, at the community gardens location at Falls Park to prepare the space and materials for the youth volunteers that will be there at 1pm. The major task will be moving the dirt from the dumped piles to the beds themselves. Farabee will assemble a bed prior to May 1 to make sure assembly on d-day will go smoothly.

Rain date is May 15, 2010. We will make every attempt to get them built even in the rain and worry about getting the dirt in them later. That is something the Parks Dept. would help out with.

At this time none of the raised beds have been assigned; wanted to be sure they were finished before making any assignments.

2010 projects

Awareness training for school kids – Fiedler reported

Contact has been made with Skip Miller from the Police Dept. who is in charge of the 'I Can' program in the schools. This is an eight week program that meets with the 5th graders in the elementary schools for one hour per week. It replaces 'Dare'. It's a locally developed program by teachers and the PD. Skip suggested we partner with the PD using the school resource officers to introduce our program since they are familiar faces with the kids. He thought a large group presentation in late winter/spring.

The contact person with the SF School District is Rich Meier – elementary school curriculum coordinator.

If we still wanted to get the program started this spring, we could approach the private/parochial schools. We could use our experience with these presentations as a 'selling point' for the SF school district. We would need to contact those schools' principals. We would set up a face to face meeting and bring information from the surveys of past presentations to reinforce the benefits of offering our presentation.

Fiedler asked if one member of the awareness training committee would meet with her to plan an approach to the private/parochial schools. O'Connor volunteered to meet with Fiedler.

We should start putting the youth panel together. Community Campus and Voc Rehab would be good resources. Ryan Green is very interested in bringing disability awareness into the schools so is interested in being a part of these presentations.

O'Connor suggested we tape the presentation to use a resource for schools to have their own presentation since we would be limited on how many presentations we could do in a year.

Another possible opportunity for taping would be Midco. They have been asking about having a presentation for their employees.

O'Connor asked if we were still interested in pursuing the emergency preparedness project. Her son is a fire fighter and may be able to get us information/results. We will put this on the next meeting's agenda.

New Business

HRC Report

Farabee reported that the HRC didn't meet yet in March. They are meeting March 25 for a strategic planning session.

Public Comment

Nelson reported that the BRN is planning an after 5pm event for NDEA Month with John Robinson.

Adjournment

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

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

Minutes submitted by Carol Garry.