

Disability Awareness Commission
Minutes
First Floor Conference Room, City Hall
July 16, 2014 3:00pm

Call to Order

Co-Chair Grimm called the meeting to order at 3:06 P.M.

Commission members present: Deb Aden, Kendra Gottsleben, Michelle Grimm, Kevin Horner (3:09P.M.), Sarah Jo Jorgensen and Sheila Sandness.

Commission members absent: Chelle Hart, Lori Lewison and Walt Schaefer.

Staff present: Carol Garry, Human Relations Technician and Colleen Moran, Human Relations Manager (3:40P.M.)

Guest(s) present:

Welcome Guest(s)

No guests present

Approval of Minutes

Aden moved to approve the meeting minutes from June 18, 2014, Sandness seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Continuing Business

Committees – Updates

25th Anniversary of the ADA - Lori Lewison, Deb Aden, Kendra Gottsleben, and Michelle Grimm

At the HRC's July 10th meeting, Moran asked if the HRC would assist in the planning of the 25th Anniversary Celebration. They agreed to help.

New Business

Re-establish Committees and Committee Members:

ADA Anniversary Committee Members: Aden, Grimm, Lewison, and Gottsleben. Lewison was selected to lead the committee.

Awareness Committee Members: Horner, Hart, Grimm, Aden. Aden volunteered to lead the group.

ArtAbility Committee Members: Gottsleben, Sandness, Jorgensen. Gottsleben will continue as leader of this committee.

COPPs Committee Members: Schaefer, Horner, + Staff. Schaefer was selected as the leader for this committee. This group is currently waiting for a change to the Code of Ordinances that will allow volunteers to write tickets.

Committees should plan to meet/email to brainstorm project ideas.

HRC Report

Co-Chair Schaeffer attended the July 10th HRC meeting and provided a report to Co-Chair Grimm in his absence.

Status of Cases – some of the recent intakes were removed to the SD Div. of Human Rights to process by the respondent/their attorney.

The EEOC is seeing more disability based cases and the HRC has seven of the sixteen open cases that are based on disability.

Civil Rights Update- Moran noted that July 26th is the 24th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act into law. Next year will be the 25th anniversary and asked the HRC how they could work with the DAC in preparing for next year's celebration. The HRC was very interested.

Marketing –Mortenson presented his review of the HRC website. Suggestions included:

- Posting a picture of the building where the office is located and include the address.
- Using HRC as the name vs. Human Relations Commission.
- Add how to file a charge of discrimination on the opening page of the City's website under the 'How do I ...' heading.
- Updating and adding videos . HRC is encouraging input from the DAC on what kinds of videos/information they would like to see posted.

Humanitarian Award – The updated nomination form was handed out and changes were suggested. This year they are planning to recognize an individual, a business or an organization/group.

Once the call for nominations goes out, the DAC is encouraged to promote within our organizations/business circles.

Schaefer sees an opportunity for the HRC and DAC to work together on planned events.

Roundtable/Public Comment

Sandness – Sheila made some macramé plant hangers for the Sioux Empire Fair.

Gottsleben – The Center for Disabilities will be hosting a disability awareness training for medical students on August 18th.
August 13th & 14th they are hosting the Traumatic Brain Injury Summer Institute. It will be at the Hilton Garden Inn and the cost is free.

Jorgensen – ILC will be hosting their 2nd Annual ADA picnic. The Mayor will give the proclamation. There are only a few slots left to attend.
She is teaching music at vacation bible school. FUN!

Aden – The School of Health Sciences will be offering a new course on older adults with disabilities. Deb has been busy placing 100 social workers into jobs. The Mayor and Governor sent golden birthday cards to her granddaughter for her 8th birthday.

Horner – Awareness Golf Clinic in conjunction with the VA Hospital is Thursday, July 24, 2014. They will run for six weeks.
September 18th & 25th will be archery outings as part of the US Olympic Committee grant.

Grimm – Busy at work.

After five months off – dance is starting again.

Moran – She recently attended an ADA conference in Denver and learned that Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act (affects organizations with federal contracts) is asking that individuals voluntarily identify if they have a disability. As yet there is little or no guidance but 7% should employ people with disabilities.

Also, the accessible web design guidelines will not go into effect yet as they cannot agree on the standard.

Public Comment: No comments.

Adjournment

Having no further business, Schaefer moved to adjourn, Lewison seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

The next DAC meeting is scheduled for August 20, 3p.m. in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

These minutes submitted by Carol Garry.