

Disability Awareness Commission  
Minutes  
First Floor Conference Room, City Hall  
February 19, 2014 3:00pm

**Call to Order**

Co-chairperson Nelson called the meeting to order at 3:05P.M.

Commission members present: Julie Briggs, Kendra Gottsleben, Kevin Horner, Vicki Nelson, and Sheila Sandness.

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

Staff present: Colleen Moran, Human Relations Manager and Carol Garry, Human Relations Technician

Guest(s) present: Terry Paulsen, PVA

**Welcome Guest(s)**

Terry Paulsen is the new Government Relations Specialist with Paralyzed Veterans of America, North Central Chapter.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Briggs moved to approve the meeting minutes from January 15, 2014, Horner seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.**

**Continuing Business**

Committees – Updates/Committee Assignments

**ArtAbility** – Gottsleben (leader), Nelson, Sandness

Inspirations by Achieve has dropped off twelve jewelry entries and other entries are coming in. The exhibits need to be at the MoVM on February 25/26.

Garry will take the submissions received in the office down to the museum sometime before the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Nelson will follow-up with Gustaf's and Achieve to confirm the April 4<sup>th</sup> date.

**Awareness** – Briggs (leader), Hart, Horner, Nelson

Spread the Word to End the Word is coming up March 5<sup>th</sup>. This will involve the schools and some businesses that will take the pledge to end the use of the 'R' word. The Mayor will read a proclamation at the March 4<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. Anyone interested in attending for the proclamation is welcome.

The Disability Friendly Sticker program recognizes businesses who hire people with disabilities. You can nominate businesses on the DAC's website or the BRN's website.

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ADA** - Lori Lewison, Kendra Gottsleben, Vicki Nelson, and Michelle Grimm

At the last meeting we discussed having a golf tournament that includes people with disabilities as a fundraiser for the 2015 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. It would be something small to start, playing nine holes, maybe 36-72 golfers. The golf tournament committee (Horner, Lewison, Schafer [?] and staff) will meet to pick a date.

### **New Business**

No new business was discussed.

### **HRC Report**

During the HRC's civil rights updates, the Commission discussed a proposed bill (withdrawn) in the state legislature that would allow businesses to refuse service to individuals based on the businesses' religious beliefs.

The HRC was asked to review the website for improvements and provide input at their next meeting.

2014 Humanitarian Award – the Commission voted to have the event at the Orpheum Theater Center again.

The HRC also discussed possible outreach events and the Commission's participation.

### **Roundtable/Public Comment**

Nelson – Aspire workgroup received a five year grant for a project for 14 – 16 year olds on SSI and living in poverty.

Gottsleben – Kendra has a couple of trainings scheduled: March 20, 2014 – Autism Spectrum Disorders Program Family and Caregiver Support Group and April 14, 15, & 16, 2014 – Best Practices in Providing Services to Individuals with Disabilities in Chamberlain. Staff will email the information to the members.

Sandness – She is going to the adaptive ski event on Saturday.

Kevin – 2/22/14 is the adaptive ski event, 10 -4pm at Great Bear. His office has moved into the Sanford Wellness Center but will still be seeing clients at the rehab gym. The Mayor has scheduled a visit to the rehab gym.

Julie – Scotty is on the STWTETW billboards. Anyone can sign the pledge online. Banners will be signed at the high schools and three of the middle schools.

Public Comment:

Terry Paulsen – April is Paralyzed Veterans month. There are a lot of activities planned like bowling, etc. Moran asked if the PVA would like the Mayor to proclaim April as Paralyzed Veterans month to let her know and she will work with them to put a proclamation together.

**Adjournment**

**Having no further business, Gottsleben moved to adjourn, Horner seconded. The meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.**

The next DAC meeting is scheduled for March 19th, 3p.m. in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

These minutes submitted by Carol Garry.