

Disability Awareness Commission
Minutes
First Floor Conference Room, City Hall
August 20, 2014 3:00pm

Call to Order

Third Officer Lewison called the meeting to order at 3:07 P.M.

Commission members present: Deb Aden, Kendra Gottsleben, Chelle Hart, Sarah Jo Jorgensen, Lori Lewison and Sheila Sandness.

Commission members absent: Michelle Grimm, Kevin Horner, and Walt Schaefer.

Staff present: Carol Garry, Human Relations Technician and Colleen Moran, Human Relations Manager (3:30P.M.)

Guest(s) present:

Welcome Guest(s)

No guests present

Approval of Minutes

Aden moved to approve the meeting minutes from July 16, 2014, with corrections. (Jorgensen's name was misspelled and the next meeting information was not updated) Jorgensen seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved as corrected.

Garry requested we move to the round-robin/public comment section of the agenda so Moran could be present for discussion of the board's business.

Continuing Business

Committees – Updates

ArtAbility – Because next year's event will be in January/February, we will need to get things moving with this. Gottsleben will start updating the materials and check with the MoVM about timelines.

Awareness – Aden met with Rebekkah, the Disability Project Coordinator from the SD Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault. We could possibly partner with them to provide some disability training for local law enforcement on interacting with people with disabilities when in a family violence/sexual assault setting.

COPP – nothing new to report

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

Since the 25th anniversary will be here before we know it, we need to get rolling. The Commissioners present brainstormed some possible ideas for the event to include venue, date, resources, theme, what we want to accomplish.

Venue: the Convention Center has break-out rooms available as well as large meeting space, adequate parking, and access to the fixed-route bus system.

Date: July 26, 2015, falls on a Sunday. It was suggested we plan for Tuesday, July 28th or Thursday, July 30th.

Resources: Society for Human Resource Management, Center for Disabilities, churches, National Association of Social Workers, SD Association of the Blind, local service agencies and social media.

Budget: \$2100.00 in account held by Rehab Action. More funding could come from grants, sponsors, and event entry fee.

Theme: No themes from brainstorming. Possible public draws: Michael J. Fox, a celebrity with a disability or family member w/disability, Katie Couric, Brennan Rock & Roll Academy – Chuck Brennan has connections to rock legends.

Accomplish: Create awareness – community wide, not just disability community.

Future discussions should include the pre-existing ADA Celebration committee with the DAC's celebration subcommittee and grow to include community partners.

New Business

HRC Report

No HRC meeting – no report

Roundtable/Public Comment

Sandness – Sheila went kayaking again, this time at Covell Lake. She attended the August 12th City Council meeting. It was the first time she attended a council meeting. The Council was taking public comments on the Transit Task Force Report.

Gottsleben – Kendra was nominated and selected to serve on the Voc Rehab Board. She is working on a new children’s book and recently had six more pages illustrated.

Jorgensen – ILC hosted their 2nd Annual ADA picnic. The Mayor read the proclamation. The Mayor took several selfies with attendees. ILC was approached by a gentleman to work with them to put together an advocacy group for paratransit. She will be unable to attend the September or October meeting. In October she will be vacationing in England, Scotland, and Belgium.

Aden – Orientation will be Friday and classes start on Monday. She was able to get a picture of Sir Paul McCartney prior to his recent concert.

Hart – The American Council of the Blind has been advocating to make it easier for people with vision impairments to identify currency. After the first of the year a device will be available that you can run the bill through and it will tell you which bill it is.

Her husband fell on their recent conference trip to Las Vegas and cut two tendons. He is currently doing rehab as part of the recovery process.

Garry – Reminder that nominations for Humanitarian Award are due September 6th. All the information with forms was emailed to the DAC. Strive to bring in more nominations than the HRC!

Lewis – Lori continues to serve on LifeScape’s Foundation Board and recently chaired their golf tournament. The event was very successful. The merge of CCHS and SD Achieve has brought more fundraising events. During the holiday season will be the Hegg Brothers’ Holiday Jam. They are also considering implementing the ‘ice bucket challenge’ to raise funds.

At home she’s getting new flooring in her kitchen and dining rooms. And at work she is getting ready for the busy time for her business – open enrollment for insurance.

Moran – She recently attended the EEOC FEPA conference. The air flights were not enjoyable – lots of delays while sitting on the airplanes.

Public Comment: No comments.

Adjournment

Having no further business, Hart moved to adjourn, Gottsleben seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

The next DAC meeting is scheduled for September 17th, 3p.m. in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

These minutes submitted by Carol Garry.