

<b>MINUTES</b>	Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.	 CITY OF SIOUX FALLS
Disability Awareness Commission Meeting	Commission Room 1st Floor – City Hall 224 West Ninth Street Sioux Falls, South Dakota	

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Carolyn Ly-Donovan, Sheila Sandness, Tana Zwart, Sarah Jo Jorgensen, Morgan Jackson

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Kimberly Huff, Joshua Reinfeld

**STAFF PRESENT:** Daniel Haggar, Valerie Schonewill

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Jackson at 3:02 p.m.

**BUSINESS OR PENDING ISSUES BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD**

Three students from Augustana University’s Public Relations Student Society of America spoke to the commission about how they help various groups achieve their publicity goals. They said they will give the commission a presentation next meeting along with a proposal about what they could do for them. Would like to know if they can have their own website and social media. Haggar said he will try and have someone at the next meeting who would be able to authorize this Ly-Donovan commented that the commission’s only online presence is webpage that is not really used to update news. Hoping to engage all ages.

Chris Bierle presented about his Career Awareness Project, Opportunity Career Expo – a job fair for individuals with disabilities that will occur on April 7, 2020 at the Augustana Elmen Center. He informed the commission that the unemployment rate for people with disabilities is 48.7% in Sioux Falls. He would like the City’s backing for this project.

Zwart reported that someone asked her if the commission would want to do a white cane awareness sign.

Jorgensen asked about ArtAbility 2020, would like Haggar to check into whether we can start planning that event.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ly-Donovan made a motion to approve the minutes from July 17, Jorgensen seconded. Vote to approve: 5 Yeses. Motion passed.

## **HUMAN RELATIONS DIVISION UPDATE**

The Human Relations Division has 45 active discrimination cases, top three bases: disability, race, and sex. In August the Human Relations Office had 95 walk-ins or phone calls regarding housing, and 42 regarding employment.

## **CIVIL RIGHTS UPDATE**

There was a complaint filed by the Office of Civil Rights regarding a six year old deaf child requesting an ASL interpreter during physical therapy. The Mid-Maryland Musculoskeletal Institute reached an agreement with them that they would make sure any individuals seeking services there would receive effective communication to participate.

A federal judge in Mississippi ruled that the state had violated the ADA by not providing mental health patients enough care in their communities, forcing them to essentially be segregated in state-run hospitals. The DOJ had brought a lawsuit about unnecessary institutionalization having a harmful impact on people with severe mental illness.

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

No public was present for input.

## **NEXT MEETING**

October 15, 2019

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Zwart and seconded by Jorgensen to adjourn the meeting.  
Meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Valerie Schonewill