

**Commission on People with Disabilities
September 11, 2007
Southern Maryland Higher Education Center
Minutes**

Attendants:	Julie Randall Susan Erichsen Sheral St. Clair Margaret Ann Stewart Christi Bishop Pam Main Cindy Phillips Mark Kalmus Paula Andreas Bill Nicholas Kendall Sorenson-Clark Cathy Zumbrum Darlene Stalcup	Excused:	Rocco Aiello Dennis Phillips
--------------------	---	-----------------	---

Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by J Randall. The meeting agenda and August minutes were distributed and reviewed by attendants.

Review previous meeting minutes - Minutes reviewed, motion made by C. Bishop to accept with amendments, seconded by Paula Andreas. Motioned carried.

Finance Report - C. Bishop recommended the purchase of a dictation machine for the purpose of recording the minutes. It was recommended to get another estimate with a lower price. S. Erichsen motioned, seconded by M. Kalmus. Motioned carried.

County Compliance/New Laws and or Regulations - S. St. Clair was at Dennis Point Marina and was told that they are aware they are not compliant and stated they are working on it.

J. Randall addressed this issue and the new ADA Accessibility Chair needs to develop a draft process to address private businesses that are newly constructed and that undergo renovations. An action item for the next meeting is to invite Harry Knight & Adam Knight from Land Growth Use Management to next meeting and have them present to the members the rules and regulations on compliance. The commission will propose real life situations that have happened and Mr. Knight will give us some ideas on how to help the community and commissioners.

Committee Status Reports

Awareness Program - C. Bishop will email members regarding table at the St. Mary's County Fair after checking with PIO and members email her back with their availability to man the table or to have a passive table setup.

K. Sorenson-Clark brought up about having a table at the Greenwell Foundation Festival on October 27.

Put together a six month calendar of events for the public and in the future have calendar on the website so public can meet the commission.

ADA Accessibility – Ms. Wilhelm has resigned from her position and from the Commission. K. Sorenson-Clark motioned that R. Aiello be named as the new ADA Accessibility Subcommittee Chair, C. Phillips seconded. Motion carried.

C. Philips from the Housing Authority reported that 650 out of 4,000 rental units in St. Mary's County are ADA accessible.

Needs Assessment Gap – Local Management Board Health and Human Services Study meeting scheduled for September 12 in the Russell Room in the Carter Building to identify the major issues per population.

K. Sorenson-Clark stated that the above mentioned study had only three pages of analysis for people with disabilities and that the disabled population was under represented on the report and committee.

J. Randall will be attending meeting to develop strategies and out comes for the needs identified in the report.

St. Mary's County Health and Human Services Priorities handout was given.

K. Zumbrum handed out copies of the Southern Maryland Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan.

Awards – S. Erichsen handed out St. Mary's County Commission for Persons with Disabilities Awards Program Guidelines to absentee members that did not receive this at the last meeting. Review, edit and send comments to S. Erichsen via email and will discuss at next meeting.

Events/Resources/Conferences – C. Bishop presented at conference in Arizona regarding Disability Etiquette and ADHD and will share her power point presentation with the commission.

J. Randall & S. Erichsen will draft letters to send to the county commissioners and John Savich that ADA Coordinator needs to be a full time position and to recognize C. Bishop for her outstanding presentation on a National level at this conference. S. Erichsen mentioned the Commission should send an article to the newspapers regarding this conference.

Discussion on C. Bishop training each county department on disability etiquette.

New Business/Questions & Answers –

National Disability Employment Month –

The following members will attend the Proclamation on October 2nd at the commissioners meeting:

J. Randall
S. St. Clair
C. Bishop
K. Zumbrum
P. Main
Bill Nicholas
J. Hormell
M. Kalmus
S. Erichsen
P. Andreas

J. Randall would like to encourage the board to make it a priority to employ more persons with disabilities.

J. Randall stated need more data regarding Disabled Population of St. Mary's County Unemployment Rate and present that at the commissioners meeting on October 2.

County ADA Improvements List – C. Bishop will meet with G. Erichsen regarding wish list for FY 09.

Some suggestions made were: STS needs rest area at each stop for elderly and disabled persons to be able to sit down while waiting for the bus; is new building at the governmental center ADA compliant; metal detectors at the Carter Building are not accessible for wheelchairs/crutches; push button on some of the doors in county government.

Email C. Bishop with ideas and list will be available at next commission meeting.

Disability Etiquette Book – C. Bishop received quote from The Printing Press for 1,000 copies, regular paper and cardstock cover and could sell ads to get it published.

There are three ad spaces:

Inside front cover ad purchase by Greenwell Foundation
Back cover ad purchase by The Center for Life Enrichment
Inside back cover space is still available

S. Erichsen mentioned that Boeing might be able to give a grant.

C. Bishop will email draft to J. Randall and she will add comments. Members review the draft and email comments, additions or changes to C. Bishop, final draft will be handed out at the next meeting for approval and can be sent to print shortly thereafter.

Maryland Disabilities Council Grant Proposal - P. Andreas stated that the Health Department has put together a proposal for the Dental Plan with a letter from J. Randall and is looking forward to being awarded this \$60,000 grant towards education and treatment plans for dental care for people with disabilities.

P. Andreas was commended for her hard work putting this proposal together.

Future Meetings Date – October 9 at 4:00 pm at the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center. Come back with definite dates for next meetings.

Questions and Requests for Future Agenda Items –

Focus on:

ADA Accessibility and meet with Harry Knight and Adam Knight from LGUM

Vote on awards

S. St. Clair would like opinion on the St. Mary's County Resource Coordination Program Resources Guide.

Review next meeting date – Next meeting date will be Tuesday, October 9 at 4:00 pm.

Adjourn – Motion to adjourn meeting made by C. Bishop, seconded by M. Stewart. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.