

Commission for People with Disabilities
September 16, 2008
Higher Education Building
Minutes

Attendees:

Christi Bishop
Susan Erichsen
Margaret Stewart
Sherri St. Clair
Pam Main
Dennis Phillips
Cathy Zumbrun
Bill Nicholas
Paula Andreas

Excused:

Julie Randall
Cindy Phillips
Marie Robinson

Rocco Aiello
Mark Kalmus

Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm by S. Erichsen. The meeting minutes were distributed and reviewed by attendees. A motion was made to approve the August minutes; the minutes were approved.

County Compliance/Laws and/or Regulations

- C. Bishop announced she would be attending the Mid Atlantic ADA update the following week with staff from Land Use and Growth Management.

Finance Report

- No report.

Committee Status Reports

Awareness

County Fair Booth staffing

- The fair staff schedule was distributed by C. Bishop. Check in procedures, times, table location and parking were addressed and discussed. C. Bishop gave the members the contact name and phone number for the fair committee and informed the commission that she would set up and break down the displays. The procedure for giveaways was explained by C. Bishop. Any citizen that participates in the awareness activity will receive a free kite. Other giveaways are to be given out on a first come first serve basis.
- Etiquette Book as been downloaded 4933 times from the website. With hardcopies included, nearly 6,000 copies have been distributed since November 2007. S. Erichsen reminded the Commission to have this information in the final report to the Commissioners.

ADA Accessibility

- Sub-committee is having a difficult time meeting. C. Bishop discussed contacting G. Erichsen at the Department of Public Works and Transportation to discuss what ADA projects have been completed and what needs to be proposed in the FY 2010 capital improvement projects.
- It was suggested to encourage citizens to attend public hearings on the budget to advocate for ADA projects.

Needs Assessment Gap Analysis

- No report.

Awards

- S. Erichsen informed the group that the Awards committee has met and selected the recipients. The awards have been chosen and funds were donated from local businesses and STS to purchase the actual awards. C. Bishop informed that the commission that a budget amendment would need to be done in order to account for the donated funds. The award sponsors are: Department of Public Works and Transportation: STS Services, Digital Home Technologies, LLC, Home Builders, INC., Mehaffey & Associates PC, and Law office of John A. Mattingly Jr. C. Bishop informed the group that during the next budget cycle a larger donations line item would be included to account for the awards program and the printing of the Etiquette Book. S. Erichsen suggested the sponsors be recognized on the Commission website. Dates for the Awards presentation were discussed for October, National Disability Employment month. C. Bishop stated she would put in for the 3rd or 4th week of October. C. Bishop stated she would submit the green sheet for the Commissioners meeting and email the group as to the confirmed date.
- The recipients of the awards were shared by S. Erichsen.
Volunteer – Sam & Vicky Brown
Notable Employer – Lonestar Steakhouse
Facility Accessibility – St. John's St. Mary's City
Innovative Program- Mary Beaton
Outstanding Person with Disability Award – Robbie Thompson
Outstanding Individual Achievements Awards- Artie Hinaman
- S. Erichsen stated the Awards Committee would be soliciting applications again in November 2008. She reminded the commission that each member should submit at least one nomination each year.

Events/Resources/Conferences

- MD Disabilities request for proposals was distributed by C. Bishop.

- C. Bishop also informed the group that she would be attending the National Recreation and Parks Association Congress in Baltimore and would be working the Accommodations booth for attendants with disabilities that need special accommodations.
- C. Zumbrun stated that the Transportation Committee met and the second phase of grants has been announced. She stated there was more time to write the grant this year however, a public notice of the intent to apply for the funds was needed. C. Bishop stated she would assist C. Zumbrun with a press release.

Old Business

- **Capital for a Day review.** S. Erichsen explained that the notion of a needs analysis was discouraged by Secretary Raggio. The Secretary stated that she felt that was a waste of money, that no one knows better the needs of the community than the community it's self. S. Erichsen stated that she felt it was a good visit and the parents present got a chance to express their thoughts and concerns. S. Erichsen commended C. Zumbrun and her presentation on the mobility management transportation system coming to the county. C. Bishop suggested that this new mobility manager be the Department of Public Works and Transportations new representative due to Mark Kalmus resignation.

New Business

- Elections for officers were held. There was a motion made by S. St. Clair and seconded by P. Main to nominate S. Erichsen to continue with the position of Vice-Chair and J. Randall as chair. A vote was held and both nominations were passed.
- S. Erichsen asked the group to consider working as a commission electronically on Google documents or a similar program in order to include the members that have a difficult time making the meetings.
- Discussion was held to the meeting location. C. Bishop suggested the use of the old Commissioners meeting room. There was discussion and the group agreed to move the location of the meetings from the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center to room 14 of Governmental Center in Leonardtown.

Review for next meeting

- Next meeting is October 21, 2008 at 4:30 pm in RM 14 of the Governmental Center

Adjourn

- Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.