

April 2012 Minutes
Madison City Disability Advocacy Board
Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Date: April 10, 2012

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: City Hall, Conference Room 130

Presiding: Claudia Rice, Chairperson

Recorder: Sheila Fuller

Board Members Present: Claudia Rice, Sheila Fuller, Cana Farr, Don Gardner, Alka Bhargav

Board Members Absent: Beth Newlin, Larry Moxley, Trish Switzer, Maria Kilgore

Guest Present: none

Call to Order: The Chairperson, Claudia Rice, called the meeting to order and noted that a quorum was present. It was also noted that sufficient prior notice of the meeting was given, in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

Announcements: Claudia Rice provided information for the 2011 Annual Conference presented by Self-Discovery and Stansell Counseling and Consulting Services, LLC. There were no other announcements.

Public Comments – limited to 2 minutes per guest: None

Minutes: The last meeting occurred on March 20, 2012. The draft minutes were distributed to board members for review and received comments were incorporated. Claudia Rice noted that there was not a quorum present from the February meeting, therefore, the February minutes will be approved at the May meeting. Claudia Rice noted that there was not a quorum from the March meeting, therefore the March minutes will be approved at the May meeting.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer, Cana Farr, provided a printed copy of the Treasurer's report to board members. She noted the ending total balance of \$ 7812.80. The balance on the Hand-in-Hand Playground account remains at \$622.57. Noted on the budget as of 4/10/2012 a \$500.00 check was accepted Monday night (4/9/12) at the city council meeting and will be deposited Tuesday or Wednesday (according to Melanie, City Clerk).

Alka Bhargav noted a \$500 donation was received from the North AL Society of Human Resource Managers (NASHRM) earmarked for a disability-related training.

Annual Appropriation: Claudia Rice presented an update on the annual appropriation for MCDAB from the City of Madison. According to Councilman Steve Haraway, MCDAB did not get approved for an annual appropriation. He also reported to Claudia that when the city council reviews the six month mark for budget review there is a possibility that funding could be approved. As of this meeting, no funding has been approved for MCDAB.

MCDAB awards: Cana Farr presented the board the nominees for the Faith Award, Personal Service Award, and the Inspiration Award. The board reviewed the nominees.

1. Claudia Rice made a motion for First Baptist Church of Madison be awarded the MCDAB Faith Award. Motion was seconded by Cana Farr. Votes are as follows: 5 approved; 0 opposed, and 0 abstained. Motion carried.

2. Claudia Rice made a motion for the Personal Service Award to be awarded to Linda Johnson and Mike Hannan. Motion was seconded by Don Gardner. Votes are as follows: 5 approved; 0 opposed; 0 abstained. Motion carried.
3. Claudia Rice made the motion for the Inspiration Award be awarded to Jessica Ann Plank, Shannon Roberts, and Leah Underwood. Motion seconded by Alka Bhargav. Votes are as follows: 5 approved; 0 opposed; 0 abstained. Motion carried.

The tentative plan is to have the awards will be presented at the May 14th Madison City Council meeting.

Web Site: Claudia Rice noted that in the next month or two to the website will need to be updated.

Committee Reports:

Accessibility: Don Gardner gave an update on the Public Awareness Campaign. The draft documents were sent to Kelly Butler, the city attorney for Madison, in February, but to date, there has been no response. These drafts are to cover the waiver for Discovery Middle School students to allow a distribution of their likeness to be used in the public awareness campaign. The forms will also give MCDAB and the school system the right to film on private property. If this project is not able to be completed by the end of the school year, Alka suggested that Don meet with a representative from DreamMaker productions.

Don Gardner then discussed the accessibility issue at the Municipal Building (City Hall) in Madison. The building does not have an elevator so citizens with accessibility issues cannot move from one level of the building to another without first going outside, traveling a distance, and then reentering the building. Don reported that he and other accessibility committee members met with the ADA attorney from Birmingham, Ed Zwilling at the Ms. Wheelchair Alabama program. At this meeting Mr. Zwilling updated them on the 2012 changes in ADA requirements.

Don presented to the board a proposed sign for posting at city hall to notify visitors of office locations to allow easier accessibility. Members of the board suggested that the information be condensed for easier reading and add the receptionist's phone number for information. This sign will be added to the MCDAB website once it is finalized. It was also suggested that the board could pay for sign and have the city install it once it is approved. The new draft will need to be completed and the sent to Cody for approval. Once Don makes the suggested changes, Alka will check with someone she works with about helping finalize the design.

Update on accessibility to the Library: Don shared with the board that Sarah Sledge had informed him that Cody has ordered the material for restrooms update.

Employment Committee: Alka Bhargav reported that Aegis has agreed to provide a meeting room for the seminar (410 Jan Davis Drive). She is planning to use two different vendors to provide breakfast and lunch. The seminar is scheduled for October 23, 2012 from 8 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. The speakers have not been finalized. This committee is also discussing with Edward Jones and Wells Fargo bank as possible vendors. The committee will decide how to recognize the vendors. Alka asked the board to remember that the key to success will be marketing.

Emergency Preparedness: No report

Day Services & Housing: Cana Farr reported that Day life is doing well. She also reported that she was contacted by Renee from Loving Arms Day Program. Renee was seeking referrals to start her program again. Keith Kyser is trying to open a day program in Huntsville. Cana has not received any recent reports from him concerning this matter.

Plans 2012: Possibly order the following: a Trifold display board; t-shirts with the new MCDAB logo; Pop up banner with new logo

Cana Farr made a motion that following the May 2012 MCDAB meeting Alka Bhargav assume the role of Vice chair of MCDAB. Motion was seconded by Don. Votes are as follows: 5 approved; 0 opposed; 0 abstained

Future board meetings: To be able to proceed with each monthly meeting it is required that we have a quorum of current board members. As a courtesy to all board members, everyone is asked to notify the chair or vice-chair of the board if they will not be able to attend a meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

The next meeting will be held on May 8th, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.at City Hall, Conference Room 130.

NOTE: Underlined text indicates an action to be taken by a board member(s).