

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

Date: August 14, 2012

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: City Hall, Conference Room 130

Presiding: Claudia Rice, Chairperson

Recorder: Sheila Fuller, Secretary

Board Members Present: Claudia Rice, Cana Farr, Don Gardner, Alka Bhargav, Tracy Butterfield, Dena Johnson, Jamie Hill, Sheila Fuller

Board Members Absent: none (note: there is one open position on the board)

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:

1. Claudia passed out the announcements to members present.
2. Claudia introduced new board members Tracy Butterfield, Jamie Hill, Dena Johnson

There were no other announcements

Public Comments – limited to 2 minutes per guest: none

Approval of Minutes:

1. Claudia Rice noted that there was a quorum present from the April meeting was in attendance at this meeting. Don Gardner made the motion to approve the April minutes as distributed and read. Cana Farr seconded the motion. Approve: 5; Opposed: 0; Abstained: 3 Motion carried.
2. Claudia Rice noted that there was not a quorum present from the July meeting due to one board member resigning from the board due to work commitments. The board members present concurred that the July minutes were presented and should be sent to Melanie Willard, City Clerk.

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 \$7709.21. The balance on the Hand-in-Hand Playground account remains at \$622.57.

Madison Street Festival:

1. Claudia Rice reported to the board that we have permission to use the schools trifold display board that was used last year at the festival. In 2013 the board will plan to purchase their own trifold display board.
2. Claudia also shared with the board that Deborah Underwood will be working her shift since she will be out of town that weekend. It is required that all board members work a two hour shift at the Madison Street Festival. If a board member is not able to be present they are required to provide a substitute.
3. Claudia Rice made a motion that in the event tables and tents cannot be donated for the Madison Street Festival, MCDAB will purchase a tent package from the Festival organizers at a cost of \$200. Motion seconded by Cana Farr and Don Gardner. Approved: all members present approved; Opposed: 0; Abstained: 0 Motion carried.

4. The bags that were approved for purchase at the July meeting has changed due to the company having trouble using two different colors on the bag. The bag will be a similar style, same price, same color (bright yellow), with the MCDBA logo. The handles will be the same color as the bag instead of black. The bags will be at the Madison Street Festival and will be given to the public when they make a one dollar donation to the board. There will not be any items in the bag. We will need to print the logo and place in a picture frame explaining the bags are available for a one dollar donation.
5. Claudia passed around a size chart for each board member to choose the size needed for the new MCDAB shirts. Claudia will let us know what we owe. The Alabama Stitching Post would like one check instead of multiple checks.

Meeting with Candidates for Mayor: The board felt it was necessary to cancel the meeting with the candidates on August 21 due to scheduling conflicts among board members.

Annual appropriations: On August 29, 2012, Claudia will make a presentation to the Madison City Council for \$1500 annual appropriation. Claudia Rice made a motion that the board members accept Exhibit A provided in our handouts for the presentation to the city council. Approved: all members present; Opposed: 0; Abstained: 0 Motion carried

Committee Reports:

Employment: Alka Bhargav presented to the board an update on the conference and areas she will need assistance from the board. They are as follows:

1. October 23 is the day for the Special Olympics. There are two members of employment committee that will not be able to be at the conference. Alka does not feel this conflict will affect attendance to the conference.
2. She reported that she has a confirmation from three speakers.
3. Alka will email agenda and a list of sponsors to the board.
4. One benefit for sponsors will be a link on the MCDAB website
5. Alka requested that Sheila update the website with a registration form that can be emailed when completed. She also asked that the option of receiving payments online be researched as a possibility.
6. A letter will be needed which documents the contributions as a tax deduction. A receipt booklet will be used to provide payment receipts.
7. Brochures from sponsors can be provided in the bags that MCDAB will be ordering for the street festival.
8. Alka requested that Claudia send an invite to the new mayor. She would like for him to be the first speaker of the morning to help kick off the conference.
9. A volunteer to take pictures at the conference will be needed from board members.
10. Board members need to give Alka a list of five businesses. She will then make sure no businesses are being approached more than once. The members will then send a letter (provided by Alka) to the businesses they selected. This letter will be asking for contributions.
11. Breakfast and snack donations have been provided. Lunch donations are needed. An idea from the board is have the meal sponsored by a business.
12. The board needs to brainstorm about ideas of how we will use money raised. One idea is to sponsor a student with a disability to participate in space camp. Other ideas were to sponsor community activities such as Easter egg hunt at the Hand-in-Hand Playground or a special swim time for people with disabilities at the YMCA.

Accessibility:

1. **Municipal Building Accessibility:** Don reported that this information has been posted on www.yellowpages.com and www.mcdab.org. He did request for the link on the MCDAB website be posted on the front of the website. He also reported that Cody Phillips stated that the production of signs can be made by the public works department. He will be getting an estimate and the board will determine if funds are available to help pay for the cost. Don reported that if he obtains the estimate before September 1, 2012, he will apply for Madison Street Festival grant to help cover the cost of the signs.
2. **Hand in hand playground:** Don reported that the better option to provide accessibility to the grill at the playground is to purchase a new grill and have it installed at the appropriate height near the handicap accessible pavilion. Don made a motion for the board to approve the use of the hand in hand playground funds up to \$622.57 as a donation to parks and rec for a new grill at the handicap accessible pavilion in Palmer Park. Motion seconded by Dena Johnson. Approved: all members present; Opposed: 0; Abstained: 0; Motion carried. Claudia Rice will handle transferring the funds to the Parks & Red. Dept. to purchase the grill. Don also reported that a sign is needed to preference the pavilion as a handicap accessible facility. The use of pavilion is a first come first serve basis.
3. **Public awareness campaign:** Don will contact Daniel Whitt, teacher at James Clemens High School about having students produce this video.

Day Services: No report at this time.

Housing: No report at this time. Cana made the announcement that in January 2013 the board will need to organize a meeting for the community to facilitate discussion concerning group homes and housing.

Transportation: Claudia presented a power point to the Madison City Council on July 23, 2012 for the MARS program. This presentation will be added to the MCDAB website.

Meeting Adjourned

The next meeting will be held on September 11, 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).