

Madison City Disability Advocacy Board February 9, 2010 Board Minutes

Date: Tuesday, February 9, 2010

Time: 6pm to 7:40 p.m.

Location: City Hall, Room 133

Board Members:

Present: Claudia Rice, Toni Osani, Cana Farr, Beth Newlin, Patricia Switzer, Jane Dow, Maria Kilgore

Absent: Mike Cassell, Debrah Underwood

Proceedings:

Minutes: Cana Farr read the minutes from the February 2, 2010 board meeting.

Treasurer Report: Cana Farr gave the Treasurer's report. Cana stated she and Claudia Rice had met with Melanie Williard on January 13th in order to clear up any discrepancies between MCDAB's financial records and the City of Madison's. There was a \$25.00 deficit in the brick sales records (MCDAB showing \$25.00 more than what the City's records shows) and no notation on the City's records of Senator Butler's ten thousand dollar donation. As of this meeting, Melanie Willard still had not given Cana a copy of their financial records so a completely accurate financial report was not available for the board meeting.

Announcements: Claudia Rice asked for upcoming meetings, conferences and other activities that needed to be posted on the MCDAB web site. Beth Newlin will post the announcements.

February 8th City Council Meeting: Claudia Rice briefed the board about the previous week's City Council meeting. Claudia presented a ten minute review of MCDAB's accomplishments to date, upcoming goals and the results of the Needs Assessment Survey. Each council member and Mayor Finley received a bound copy. At the meeting Police Chief Larry Muncey stated and he and MCDAB could meet to discuss how to keep the police department apprised of citizens with disabilities and how to best help them in police-related situations. Claudia Rice asked that the council approve a board member from MCDAB to sit on the Parks and Recreation Board. Councilman Bill Holtzclaw said that seemed reasonable and asked Melanie Willard to look into the possibility. The board will check with Steve Haraway prior to our March board meeting to check on the status of this request. Board members

attending the City Council meeting were Claudia Rice, Jane Dow, Cana Farr and Patricia Switzer.

Employment Committee: Jane Dow gave an overview of the Employment Committee's current activities. Jane informed the Board the Bob Lipinski from BJHS will make a 30 minute presentation to the North Alabama Society of Human Resources Management. At this meeting, Kathy Burris will discuss how government funds are available to companies who hire workers with disabilities. Jane Dow also reported that Kathy Burris and Alca Bhargav, from the Ratheon Human Resources Department, are working with the Chamber of Commerce to host a diversity Job Fair. Jane Dow reported she is still working with the Full Life Ahead group.

MCDAB Awards: Cana Farr distributed a brief outline of possible MCDAB awards to be given to individuals and groups who work with, hire and support Madison citizens with disabilities. The board agreed this is a workable idea and Cana Farr is to give a more detailed presentation at the March meeting.

Vacant Board Position: Claudia Rice discussed the vacant board position left by Kayla Beard. The position ends May, 2010 and needs to be filled by a person with a disability. Claudia Rice informed the board that the city has a procedure in place for advertising board vacancies. The board discussed sending out an email to the volunteers from the Needs Assessment to help advertise the position. She will check with Taylor Edge to see if any applications have been received and if not, she will ask if the board may advertise the position in the newspaper. She will email the board with those details.

Hand-in-Hand Playground: Claudia Rice distributed a quote from Gametime which listed the equipment selected by Kayla Beard and previously approved by Mike Cassell. The quote included a wheelchair accessible table Claudia Rice selected in order to spend as much of the \$5,000. budget as possible. The quote from Gametime including freight charges totaled \$4844.36. Claudia Rice reported that the expenses would be paid by the donation from the Madison Fire Department, (\$5,000) as it was intended. The Fire Department donation (\$5,000) needs to include an inscribed brick at a cost of \$50.00. Claudia Rice will discuss this issue with Mike Cassell. Beth Newlin made a motion that the Board accept the Gametime quote and Patricia Switzer seconded. The Board approved. Claudia Rice will give the quote from Gametime to Mike Cassell of the Parks & Recreation Dept. as they will make the purchase and install the equipment. Claudia Rice reminded the Board that a commemorative wall will be built with the money from the brick sales plus donations acquired by former board member Kayla Beard. The proposal to build the commemorative wall was approved by the Board in October 2009.

Committees and Volunteers: The Board discussed how to approach the volunteers and how they can best serve our board. It was decided that the newly created committees need to be more organized before we approach the volunteers. The Board agreed to table a city-wide call for volunteers until a later date. The Board also discussed whether committee volunteers needed to complete an application through the city in order to serve. Claudia Rice will check into that and inform the board.

Claudia Rice asked the Board for volunteers to head the three established committees. Patricia Switzer and Beth Newlin volunteered to head the Emergency Services committee. Claudia Rice made a motion that Patricia Switzer and Beth Newlin head the Emergency Services committee and Jane Dow seconded. The board approved. Cana Farr and Maria Kilgore volunteered to head the Day Services committee. Beth Newlin motioned that Cana Farr and Maria Kilgore head the Day Services committee and Jane Dow seconded. The board approved. The Emergency Services and Day Services committees will report in March what their respective committee will try to accomplish in 2010 and potential volunteers to serve on the committees. Claudia Rice will ask Debrah Underwood to head the Housing committee.

Claudia Rice asked Tony Osani if the position on the Recreation Advisory Board is approved by City Council if he would be interested in taking that seat. He agreed and Trish Switzer agreed to be his backup in the event he cannot attend a meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.