

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

Date: May 8, 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, Trish Switzer, Larry Moxley, Beth Newlin, Maria Kilgore

Board Members Absent: none

Guest Present: Kory Alfred, Tracy Butterfield

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.

Transportation committee: Madison Assisted Ride System (MARS) Kory Alfred, Parks and Recreation Director the City of Madison was present at this meeting to provide information as well as answer board members concerns about the MARS transportation program. Claudia Rice provided a handout to the board members who provided the background on this program, the current status, concerns from MCDAB, and recommendations for future plans. Claudia stated that MCDAB will be making recommendations to the Madison City Council for MARS once the recommendations are approved by MCDAB members. The goal is to have the members approve the recommendations draft at the June MCDAB meeting.

Announcements:

1. Claudia Rice announced that she and Cana Farr attended the 2012 Annual Conference Presented by Self Discovery and Stansell Counseling and Consulting Services, LLC on May 5, 2012 in Florence. Claudia suggested that MCDAB may want to consider sponsoring a conference of this nature for future events.
2. Other announcements included a request from the Madison Weekly magazine to provide articles about the board's activities or disabilities. Don submitted an article for April. When writing an article it is recommended to have a photo attached. Sheila Fuller will send via email the sign-up sheet which was provided at the meeting by Claudia to the board members.

There were no other announcements

Public Comments – limited to 2 minutes per guest: none.

Minutes:

1. The last meeting occurred on April 10, 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 April meeting, therefore, the April minutes will be approved at the June meeting.
2. Claudia Rice noted that there was not a quorum from the March meeting, therefore the March minutes will be approved at the June meeting.
3. Claudia Rice noted that there was a quorum present from the February meeting. Maria Kilgore made a motion that we accept the MCDAB February meeting minutes as approved. Larry Moxley made a second for the motion. Claudia called the board for a

vote on this motion. The results were as follows: 6 approved; 0 oppositions; 2 abstentions. Motion carried.

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 \$7835.06. This does not reflect the deduction of \$500 approved for Alka Bhargav to spend for the disability related training conference. The balance on the Hand-in-Hand Playground account remains at \$622.57.

MCDAB Awards: Cana Farr shared that the MCDAB awards will be presented on May 14, 2012 at 6 pm during the Madison City Council meeting. She also reported that she will write an article for the Madison Weekly highlighting these awards for the May article submission.

Committee Reports:

Accessibility:

1. Don Gardner presented a draft letter to the board which was drafted to thank Cody Phillips for his role in the recent modifications to the Madison Public Library. The board requested that a copy be sent to the Mayor.
2. Update on Public Library: Don reported that he went by to check on the progress of the restrooms at the public library. He stated that they were not able to lower the counters but were able to move the basin forward a few inches to the edge of the counter. He stated that this made a significant difference in the accessibility of the sink. He also shared with the board that the handicap door opener has been completely installed.
3. Don also provided the board with the modified sign for the city hall accessibility. The revised version has been sent to Cody Phillips for approval.
4. Public awareness campaign: Don was giving an update with the concern that the school year is over and this project will not be completed. Maria Kilgore shared with the board that the middle school students with disabilities will be attending summer school and as part of this program, college students assisting the faculty. She shared that the teacher providing services for this program is competent in technology and is willing to help complete this campaign.

Employment Committee: Alka Bhargav reported that she needs the board members to provide names for key note speakers at the disability awareness training conference. She currently has an attorney that will be speaking on the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). She also reported that MCDAB can use a pop up banner for marketing at the conference. The photographs for this banner will need to be a high resolution. She asked board members to provide names of photographers that might be willing to help with this pro bono.

Emergency Preparedness: No report

Day Services & Housing: Claudia Rice, Cana Farr, and Larry Moxley will meet before the June MCDAB board meeting to brainstorm ideas for housing.

Madison Street Festival: Claudia Rice made a motion that MCDAB provide an information booth at the 2012 Madison Street Festival. Maria Kilgore and Larry Moxley seconded the motion. Claudia called the board to a vote. The results were 8 approved; 0 oppositions, and 0 abstentions.

Claudia Rice recognized and shared the board's appreciation to Maria Kilgore, Beth Newlin, and Trish Switzer for their service to MCDAB during their terms.

Meeting Adjourned

The next meeting will be held on June 12th, 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).