

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

Date: July 10, 2012

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: City Hall, Conference Room 130

Presiding: Claudia Rice, Chairperson

Recorder: Claudia Rice

Board Members Present: Claudia Rice, Cana Farr, Don Gardner, Alka Bhargav, Larry Moxley

Board Members Absent: Sheila Fuller (Note: there are 3 open board positions)

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 reported that Mr. Rudy Galindo contacted her to announce the opening of a drop-in center in Madison for people with mental health care needs. The center helps people transition to the community after working thru the Mental Health Dept. It is held at Destiny Church on Hwy. 20. Mr. Galindo will send Claudia a flyer via email and she will distribute it to the board.

There were no other announcements

Public Comments – limited to 2 minutes per guest: none

Minutes: Because of open board seats and absences, minutes for March, April, May and June need to be approved. Claudia Rice made the motion for the board members to concur that the March minutes were previously distributed and read. Claudia Rice, Cana Farr, Don Gardner and Alka Bhargav and Maria Kilgore were in attendance at the March meeting, but Maria Kilgore ended her term and will not be returning to the board. She provided written permission to approve the minutes.

A quorum from the April meeting was not in attendance at this meeting; therefore, approval of the April minutes will be postponed until the August meeting.

Don Gardner made the motion to approve the May minutes as distributed and read. A quorum was present from the May meeting and the motion passed.

At the June meeting a quorum was not present. The minutes were distributed to all board members and will be placed on file with the City Clerk's office.

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 \$ 7495.12. The balance on the Hand-in-Hand Playground account remains at \$622.57.

Madison Street Festival: Board members present discussed ideas for the booth at the Madison Street Festival.

Claudia Rice provided the board with information obtained from The AL Stitchin' Post on bags and shirts on which we could display our new logo. These items will be used to promote the board at our booth as well as other venues. Larry Moxley made the motion to purchase light blue polo shirts embroidered with MCDAB's new logo in the colors black and red. Cana Farr seconded and the motion passed with no objections or abstentions. Board members agreed that each person will be responsible for the cost of purchasing their own shirt in order to limit taking funds from the board's account. At the next meeting when all board members are present, sizes will be determined and Claudia Rice will complete the order with the AL Stitchin' Post.

Claudia Rice made the motion that the board purchases 500 Portrait Recycle Shopping Bags in yellow with MCDAB's logo printed in black and red on one side. Don Gardner seconded and with no objections or abstentions the motion passed. Claudia will place the order for the bags.

Important Note: All board members are expected to work a shift the day of the festival and if a board member is not able to work then they will need to provide their own substitute.

Meeting with Candidates for Mayor: The board discussed inviting the candidates for mayor to our August meeting. The invitation will include information about the board's purpose and objectives. The candidates will be asked to come prepared to discuss how they will support the board's goals if they are elected. A power-point presentation will be developed for the August meeting which highlights the board's accomplishments and projects. Alka suggested each committee develop a power point slide and forward to Claudia in order to help complete the power point presentation.

Committee Reports:

Employment: Alka Bhargav stated she wants the board to purchase a pop-up banner with MCDAB's logo and other information about the board. This can be used at the human resources workshop we are planning in October as well as other venues. Good, quality photos are needed for the banner. Alka will ask a co-worker if she will consider donating her time and photography skills to this project. Alka may partner with Cana Farr and use participants from the Day Life Program for the photos.

For the human resources workshop on October 23rd Alka stated the workshop is to begin at 7:30 a.m. and end at 1:00 p.m. in order to allow for 3 ½ CEU's. Her goal is to submit the paperwork for the CEU's by the end of August. CEU's will make the workshop more appealing and provide the opportunity for greater attendance. She is hoping the breakfast items will be donated, and is checking with vendors who can provide lunch at a reasonable price. Speakers secured to date are attorney Jamie Brabston and _____ who will speak on reasonable accommodations. Alka stated she is seeking a speaker on stereotypes of disabilities in the workplace and board members recommended Graham Sisson of the AL Governor's Office on Disability. Claudia Rice will provide his contact information to Alka. Sponsorships will be sought for the workshop and board members should consider who they could contact for that purpose.

Accessibility: Don Gardner stated the committee did not meet this month. Laurie Viers backed out of the public relations project she had earlier agreed to work on; therefore, the committee will consider other options for completing this project. Claudia Rice stated that she met with Parks & Rec Dept. Head Kory Alfred and he stated there is the possibility of changes being made to the pavilions in the Hand-in-Hand Playground. These changes would result in the grill

becoming accessible, which is the issue Don brought to his attention. Kory will keep the board informed of any updates in this area.

Day Services: No Report

Housing: Larry Moxley, Cana Farr and Claudia Rice agreed that the community meeting on housing issues will be delayed until next year. It was determined that because the board has open positions as well as many projects to work on between now and the end of the year, the housing meeting needs to be delayed. Larry Moxley will write an article on housing issues for submission to the Madison Weekly in August.

Transportation: Claudia Rice presented a draft of the power-point presentation to be given at an upcoming City Council meeting on the MARS Program. The tentative date for presenting is July 23rd. The board made several recommendations for changes to the draft. She will incorporate those changes and email the completed copy to board members. If at all possible, board members should be present at this meeting as a show of support. Claudia is soliciting help from citizens who use this service and want to support the program. Emails and flyers will be distributed for that purpose.

Meeting Adjourned

The next meeting will be held on August 14th, 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).