

**April 2013 Minutes**  
**Madison City Disability Advocacy Board**  
**Regular Monthly Board Meeting**

**Date:** April 9, 2013

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Location:** City Hall, Conference Room 130

**Presiding:** Claudia Rice, Chairperson

**Recorder:** Sheila Fuller

**Board Members Present:** Claudia Rice, Don Gardner, Tracy Butterfield, Sheila Fuller, Dena Johnson, Kathy Burris, Jamie Hill, Cynthia Allison

**Board Members Absent:** Keith Bedsole

**Guest Present:** Councilman Gerald Clark

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

**Announcements:**

1. Claudia Rice distributed the announcements to members present.
2. Other Announcements:
  - a. Please help fill an open board positions for persons associated with a business not affiliated with disabilities. Sheila Fuller will be rotating off of the board in May 2013.
  - b. April 17, 2013 MCDAB will host Jane McWhorter to provide an in-service training to Parks and Recreation Department personnel on teaching children with disabilities how to swim. Training will begin at 1 p.m. at Dublin Park. The classes are set up to start this summer. Claudia Rice made a motion that MCDAB pay Jane McWhorter \$100 for providing the in-service training with the money coming from the recreation line item in the MCDAB budget. Kathy Burgess provided a second. All board members present approved the motion; no opposition; no abstentions.
  - c. Claudia reminded board members to submit their articles to Sheila for publication in the Madison Weekly.

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

**Fishing Rodeo for Special Needs:**

Gayle Milam from the Madison City Parks and Recreation Department spoke to the board about the idea to host a fishing rodeo for special needs at Dublin Park in Madison. The plan is to host this event on June 8, 2013 at Dublin Park ponds. The Parks and Recreation Department will stock the ponds. Participants will get a certificate for the first fish they caught. There will also be judging for various categories which will be determined at a later date. This event will need volunteers. Ms. Milam shared that she will be contacting local businesses such as Academy Sports to help sponsor the event and provide equipment. Another community sponsor recommended was the Civitans Club. Participants will need to pre-register for the event. There will not be an entry fee and it will be open to all ages. The board will advertise the event through Madison City Schools, emailing support groups, and publishing a newspaper article. Another marketing idea was to get the media involved. Ms. Milam will do an entry form and attach a liability form to the entry form. As part of the liability the parent/guardian will sign stating they are aware this is not a drop off event. Don Gardner suggested that a week prior to the event the

landscaping will need to be surveyed for safety issues and accessibility. Ms. Milam shared that she will talk to the Eagle Scouts about making portable ramps. The option of snacks will be researched to determine if a Pepsi or Coca-Cola trailer can be used.

Dena Johnson made a motion that MCDAB proceed with hosting the fishing rodeo for special needs with registration at 10 a.m. and the event beginning at 10:30 a.m. and should be completed by noon. Tracy Butterfield provided a second for the motion. All board members present were in favor; no opposition or abstentions. Motion carried.

Dena Johnson will be the contact person for MCDAB. At the May meeting she will give an idea for sponsorship and the board will need to vote on any funds that will be needed.

**Approval of Minutes:** Claudia Rice noted a quorum was present from the regular March 2013 meeting. Claudia made a motion to accept the minutes from the regular March 2013 meeting as distributed to board members. Don Gardner provided a second to the motion. All board members present approved the motion; no opposition; no abstentions. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Don Gardner provided a copy of the Treasurers report to all board members present. He reported a balance of \$16,725.89. This balance reflects the addition of the Madison City FY13 Appropriation funds of \$4,500.00. On the Madison City Ledger there was note for an error correction from prior to October 1, 2013. Don reported that he will research this and report back to the board. Claudia asked Don which line item the funding for the MCDAB awards would be subtracted from on the FY2013 budget. Claudia suggested MCDAB awards have their own budget line item on next year's budget, but for this year it will be taken from Public Awareness.

Sheila will email Don the website cost and due dates for budget purposes.

**Updates: Easter Egg Hunt & Special-Needs Swim at YMCA:** The Easter Egg Hunt was a great success and the board would like to make it an annual event.

Tracey Butterfield reported that the Special Needs Swim day went well. 30 people RSVP and 24 from the RSVP were in attendance. The next swim is June 2, 2013 at the Madison YMCA Pre-registration is required.

### **Committee Reports**

**Accessibility:** Don Gardner provided an update on the scholarship for Space Camp for Special Needs in August. Due to needing further research it was suggested to wait until 2014 Space Camp.

**MCDAB awards:** Claudia will begin working on the awards. Her plan is to open up the nomination by advertising in the Madison Weekly.

**Day Services and Housing:** The April 6, 2013 community meeting went well. The committee had 29 people RSVP and 39 were in attendance. They passed out surveys and have received 22 surveys. The age range for people with special needs was from age 19 through 50. The next community meeting will be April, 22, 2013. Discussion will be about what is currently available and what is needed. The committee would like to see more participates from Madison City high schools.

**Transportation:** Claudia reported that the recreation department has applied for a grant to purchase another bus. The grant is an 80/20 grant for \$50,000 so the City will need to provide \$10,000 if awarded. The bus will not be purchased until the next fiscal year. Don Gardner suggested that the board and recreation department seek private donations for the bus.

Claudia also brought before the board a quote for an ADA lift for the outdoor pool at Dublin Park. A discussion ensued among committee members, and it was decided that two additional quotes should be obtained. Claudia Rice made the motion to increase the recreation budget to \$4500 to help fund the lift. Tracey provided a second for the motion. All board members present were in favor of the motion; no opposition; no abstentions. Motion carried.

Claudia Rice made a motion to fund the Spectrum Freedom ADA chair lift contingent on obtaining two additional quotes with the board funding the lowest quote, but not to exceed \$3000. Claudia will email the two additional quotes once obtained. Dena Johnson and Don Gardner provided a second to the motion. All board members present were in favor of the motion; no oppositions; no abstentions. Motion carried.

**Recreation Advisory Board: no report**

**Discussion of election of new officers in May:** Claudia presented to the board that there will be two openings on the board. One is for the position of secretary and the other is for chairperson. Sheila Fuller will be rotating off the board in May and her position as secretary will need to be filled. Claudia reported that she is not leaving the board but would like to step down as chairperson.

**New business:** Councilman Clark presented to the board the opportunity to review Phase I of the Madison Downtown Restoration Project. He would like the board's input on parking and overall accessibility as related to ADA section 4 for outdoor requirements. Don will contact the Accessibility Committee. They will discuss this request and stay in contact with Councilman Clark.

**Meeting Adjourned**

Next meeting is May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 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).*