

November 2014 Minutes
Madison City Disability Advocacy Board
Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Date: November 11, 2014

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: City Hall, Conference Room 130

Presiding: Claudia Rice, Vice-Chairperson

Recorder: Joni Haas

Board Members Present: Claudia Rice, Joni Haas, Cynthia Allison, Gerald Clark, Kathy Burris, Willard Brooks, Paula Cushman, Tracie Butterfield

Board Members Absent: Keith Bedsole

Guests Present: Larry Povinelli, representing the Federation of the Blind. He is an attorney focusing on disability law who moved to Madison from Virginia. He wanted to get to know the Board and offer ideas and help with issues.

Call to Order: The Vice-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: None

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: Claudia Rice noted a quorum was present from the regular September, 2014 meeting. Claudia made the motion that the minutes, previously distributed to the board, be approved. Tracy Butterfield seconded. All board members present approved the motion; no opposition; one abstention. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Willard Brooks, provided a copy of the Treasurer's report to all board members present. He reported a balance of \$12, 461.27. The expenditures included in the report are: \$83.00 for MCDAB brochures for distribution at Madison Street Festival, \$578.66 for game prizes for Madison Street Festival, \$33.99 MCDAB award and \$153.15 for Fishing Rodeo supplies.

Committee Reports:

Accessibility: Claudia Rice followed up with Gerald Clark, MCDAB board city council liaison, regarding the MARS bus. He confirmed that the grant stipulations were not advantageous to the city and the Madison Park and Recreation will purchase the bus outright. There has been no time frame set, hopefully it will be during this FY. The new bus will be the primary transportation and the old bus will become the backup.

Willard Brooks will pursue Palmer Park playground repairs.

Day Services: Cynthia Allison reported that as of October 20, 2014, EPIC is an official 501C3 , non-profit. A date for the joint public meeting has not been set yet because the EPIC committee wants to have the next step plans in place before bringing the community up to date. Fundraising and brainstorming will be the next emphasis for the committee.

MCDAB autonomy: Additional conversation regarding the recommendation from the City Council that MCDAB become a more autonomous entity, maintaining their own funds and possibly seeking 501C3 status. Kathy Burris was unable to contact another board to inquire how

they maintain their autonomy. Paula Cushman volunteered to look into what has to be done for 501C3 status. Claudia Rice motioned that the board move forward to register Madison City Disability Advocacy Board with the state. Kathy Burris seconded. All board members present approved the motion; no opposition; no abstention. Motion carried.

Planning for 2015: Board members volunteered to head the following events –
Making Waves event at Madison YMCA – quarterly – Kathy Burris
Easter Egg Hunts – Claudia Rice and Kathy Burris
Fishing Rodeo – Joni Haas and Willard Brooks
MCDAB Awards – Paula Cushman
Madison Street Festival – Willard Brooks
Employment Seminar on Disabilities in the work place – Paula Cushman, Willard Brooks, Larry Povenelli, Jackie Bradley-Wilson
Recreation Advisory Board Meetings/MCDAB – 1st Tuesday each month – Willard Brooks
USSRC scholarship – Kathy Burris

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting was adjourned at 7:50.

Next meeting date to be decided by Keith Bedsole, chairperson.

NOTE: Underlined text indicates an action to be taken by a board member(s).