

## **Madison City Disability Advocacy Board Board Minutes**

**Date:** Tuesday, June 8, 2010

**Time:** 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

**Location:** City Hall, Mayor's Conference Room

**Board Members Present:** Claudia Rice, Toni Osani, Cana Farr, Debrah Underwood, Maria Kilgore, Patricia Switzer, Mike Cassell, Don Gardner

**Board Members Absent:** Beth Newlin, Jane Dow

**Guests:** Mayor Paul Finley, Councilman Steve Haraway

### **Proceedings began at 6:00 pm**

**Miracle League:** Presentation by Tony Osani on what Miracle League is and does. Discussions on pros and cons of budgeting for a field in Madison followed. Also discussed were the options for the field location. Toni Osani took the action to investigate all possible locations for the field. Trish Switzer recommended that the board look at other recreational needs in Madison in order to see where the prioritized needs are before committing to development of a field. All agreed it would be a good investment for Madison at some point in time. Tony agreed to review the Needs Assessment and see where MCDAB priorities should be and report back at the next meeting. Mayor Finley suggested the board review plans for the new concessions/outdoor restrooms at Dublin Park to ensure they do not have accessibility issues.

**5 K Run:** Tony Osani brought up the possibility of having a 5k run in conjunction with the Madison Street Festival as a MCDAB fundraiser. He suggested that it be tied to physical fitness for school age children to encourage participation and that a Mayor's Trophy be presented to team winners. The Mayor suggested that Toni should investigate it further with the Street Festival organizer.

**Hand-in-Hand Playground:** Claudia Rice asked Mike Cassell to update the board on the status of the purchase of the playground equipment. His only concern was with the sandbox due to sanitation issues. Claudia Rice motioned and Maria Kilgore seconded that Mike should determine a cost comparable substitute for the sandbox and proceed with the purchase. Mike Cassell confirmed that the timeline for installing the new playground equipment would be August or September.

**Minutes:** Cana Farr read the minutes from the April 13, 2010 board meeting. Don Gardner had one correction to the minutes regarding the MARS action.

**Treasure's Report:** Cana Farr handed out the report and no discrepancies or errors were noted. The ending balance was reported as \$9,192.35.

**Announcements:** Claudia Rice announced information about an Epilepsy Seminar by Huntsville Hospital this coming Saturday beginning at 9:30 am and located at the

Embassy Suites. More information available at [www.epilepsyadvocate.com](http://www.epilepsyadvocate.com). Claudia also announced that she has not heard anything back from Senator Tom Butler regarding House Bill 507 on Accessibility. Steve Haraway said he would check into it when Claudia told him of the board's desire to do a public service ad campaign to help inform the public about accessibility issues but would like to do it in conjunction with the bill's passage.

Maria Kilgore announced that she attended a YMCA meeting. The new building is scheduled to open in November and they are seeking new members. It was suggested that the Y look at providing swim lessons for special needs individuals at some point in the future. Tony Osani said he would follow up on this suggestion. Maria reported that the Mill Creek Elementary Special Needs Playground is scheduled to open June 25, 2010. This was developed with Federal Stimulus funding. Maria also reported that the Parent Advisory Meeting was well attended this past month and that Tony Osani was the guest speaker. Claudia Rice will be the speaker at the September 13, 2010 meeting. Marie suggested that this would be a good forum for discussing the 911 Special Needs Registry.

Cana Farr announced that the MCDAB Awards were to be presented at the June 28, 2010 City Council Meeting.

**Street Festival:** The Madison Street Festival is scheduled for October 2, 2010. Claudia Rice motioned and Cana Farr seconded that MCDAB participate again this year with an information booth only this time include information on many of the special needs activities that are occurring and on-going in Madison. This motion was passed. Claudia Rice also motioned and Debrah Underwood seconded that as a fund raiser we sell pizza and canned drinks at the booth contingent upon: 1) Toni Osani checking to see if anyone else is planning to sell Dominos Pizza, 2) Claudia Rice verifying with the Street Festival coordinator that MCDAB can sell the pizza, and 3) Claudia Rice determining if we need a Health Department Temporary Permit and that it does not cost more than \$100. This motioned was also passed.

Many ideas were suggested as to what information can be provided at the booth such as MCDAB accomplishments, brochures, Miracle League, MCDAB awards, Hand-in-hand playground, emergency preparedness, Day Life, etc.

MARS: Claudia Rice reported that Elise Kirkland has prepared an advertisement for Channel 42 and is working on an article for the Madison Magazine. She is working with Claudia to develop a data collection sheet that will document what constraints are being encountered by individuals seeking service.

Housing Committee: Nothing to report

Day Program Committee: Nothing to report

Emergency Planning Committee: Patricia Switzer reported that the EP Committee met with Police Chief Muncney and City Council President Bill Holtzclaw on May 26, 2010

and that discussions were continuing with 911's Chris Tucker. She believes that for now, the scope of what they are trying to do will be limited to a Special Needs Registry to be developed and maintained by 911. Chris is talking with their software developers to see what this would require. MCDAB would be involved in facilitating and advertising this capability. Maria Kilgore provided the name of a University of Alabama graduate student who is working through a Federal Grant and willing to help with the Special Needs registry. Patricia also passed out some FEMA brochures on Emergency Preparedness that will be used at the Street Festival. Another issue this committee is planning to address is what type of training the Madison Public Service Departments might need to better serve the special needs community.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.