

Minutes
Madison City Disability Advocacy Board
Regular Monthly Meeting

Date: September 14, 2010

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: City Hall, Mayor's Conference Room

Presiding: Claudia Rice, Chairperson

Recorder: Debrah Underwood, Secretary

Board Members Present: Claudia Rice, Cana Farr, Debrah Underwood, Maria Kilgore, Patricia Switzer, Don Gardner, Beth Newlin, Tony Osani, Jane Dow

Board Members Absent:

Call to Order: The Chairperson 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.

On-line Business review:

An email vote was taken on August 14th as follows: at the request of Claudia Rice, the motion was made for the board to purchase 500 brochures from Madison Media Works on non-glossy paper. Eight yes votes were recorded from board members Tony Osani, Maria Kilgore, Debrah Underwood, Cana Farr, Trish Switzer, Jane Dow, Don Gardner, and Claudia Rice. The motion passed.

The following responses were received as recommended amounts to request for our annual appropriation from the City Council:

Tony - \$1,500 to \$2,500

Debrah - \$2,000

Maria - at least \$2,500

Jane - \$2,500

Don - \$2,500

Claudia Rice will send the formal request for \$2,500. 00 for the 2010-2011 budget.

Announcements: Beth Newlin presented the board's first issue to come to through the MCDAB website which dealt with accessibility at the Dublin Park play fields. Claudia Rice reported that she met with Kory Alfred and gave him a copy of the Needs Assessment that related to recreation issues.

Tony Osani reported his discussions with the Recreation Board concerning the need for a family restroom as part of the new Dublin Park facility. While the Recreation Board verbally agrees this should be done, there is no commitment being made and time is running short. They have provided a blueprint for review but it does not have the family restroom incorporated. Tony is working to get a written commitment to the addition.

Jane Dow motioned that Don Gardner head the new Accessibility Committee. Cana Farr seconded the motion and it was approved with no opposing votes. Don will address the issue identified by Beth Newlin from the MCDAB website and will work with the Recreation Board to find a solution. Tony Osani said that trails are being added to Dublin's upper fields and that golf carts are running at both Dublin and Palmer to help with accessibility issues. Don took the action to obtain more information so that it could be broadly advertised. Claudia Rice took the action to invite Kory Alfred, Steve Haraway, and Cody Phillips (the Madison Building Director) to the October MCDAB meeting to continue the discussion on accessibility.

Minutes: The last meeting occurred on August 10, 2010. The draft minutes were distributed to board members for review on August 23, 2010. Claudia Rice motioned that the minutes be approved. With no opposing votes, the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer handed out the report and no discrepancies or errors were noted. The ending balance was \$7,879.19.

Awards:

Cana Farr reported that she received 3 inputs for the Employment Award. After discussion Jane Dow motioned that Westin receive the award and Maria Kilgore seconded the motion. With no opposing votes, the motion was passed. Cana also provided a draft of Madison Happenings to be distributed at the Madison Street Festival.

Miracle League:

Tony Osani reported that timing right now is not good for development of a new softball field in Madison. Huntsville is having problems with its current field and needs repair. Discussion ensued regarding the indoor sports Miracle League offers and whether or not we could accommodate them in Madison. Tony stated he would check with Johnny Franklin to see if there is an interest in changing the location. Tony will continue to investigate which sports could best be offered to Madison residents with disabilities.

Madison Street Festival:

Claudia Rice handed out the street festival schedule. Claudia Rice and Cana Farr plan to bake cookies the night prior to the festival with the Koinonia group. Money made from cookie sales will go into MCDAB's account. The Full Life Ahead representative would like to be part of MCDAB's booth. Jane Dow made a motion that the Full Life Ahead representative be provided space at MCDAB's street festival booth. Maria Kilgore seconded the motion and it was passed with no opposing votes. Jane Dow will bring balloons and Tony Osani will bring helium for the balloons.

Committee Reports:

Day Services – No report

Emergency Preparedness – Beth Newlin talked to Police Chief Muncey and learned that 911 is going through a digital upgrade right now and is very busy. He offered to try and contact Chris Tucker on MCDAB’s behalf. Beth also indicated that the committee would be meeting with head of emergency services at Crestwood Hospital and suggests that they help support this effort. Jane Dow noted that emergency services personnel need to be trained to deal with people who have mental illness during times of crisis. Right now the law requires them to contact a mental health center.

Trish Switzer has been selected as a Delegate to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) “**Getting Real-2010 Inclusive Emergency Management National Capacity Building Training Conference** on September 22-24, 2010 at the Renaissance Baltimore Harbor Place Hotel, 202 East Platt Street, Baltimore, Maryland. This three-day interactive training conference brings the disability and emergency management community leaders together from across the country to build national capacity for inclusive emergency management practices.

Beth Newlin developed an information sheet to be inserted into the Emergency Preparedness Kits providing instructions on how to use them. Beth Newlin made a motion to include a sticker on each kit noting collaboration with Family Voices of AL in preparation of the kits. The motion was approved with no opposing votes.

Hand- in- Hand Playground – Claudia Rice met with Kory Alfred to discuss the installation of the new playground equipment and the construction of the brick bench in the playground. They discussed the possible dates for the dedication ceremony. This is still being worked. It was decided to use only the year of dedication on the granite stone to avoid any possible problems with choosing a date.

Housing –No report

Recreation – See announcements

Maria Kilgore requested information to include in a city school special education news letter.

Meeting Adjournment:

The next meeting will be held on October 12, 2010 at 6:00 pm in the City Hall, Mayor’s Conference Room.