

Disability Awareness Commission
Minutes
First Floor Conference Room, City Hall
February 18, 2015 3:00pm

Call to Order

Co-Chair Lori Lewison called the meeting to order at 3:05 P.M.

Commission members present: Kendra Gottsleben, Chelle Hart, Kevin Horner, Sarah Jo Jorgensen, Lori Lewison, Sheila Sandness, and Walt Schaefer

Commission members absent: Deb Aden

Staff present: Colleen Moran, Human Relations Manager and Carol Garry, Human Relations Technician

Guest(s) present: None

Welcome Guest(s)

No guests present

Approval of Minutes

Jorgensen moved to approve the meeting minutes from January 21, 2015. Hart seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Continuing Business

Committees – Updates

ArtAbility (Gottsleben, Sandness, and Jorgensen - Leader – Gottsleben) –

The deadline for submitting an entry for ArtAbility was February 9, 2015. There were plenty of entries. Garry reported approximately 65 artists and 93 pieces of artwork. The next deadline is February 26/27 when the artwork needs to be in to the Museum so they can prepare for the display.

Gottsleben pointed out that after last year's event it was decided we should have some type of program/presentation to introduce the artists who are at the reception. Any ideas on what the program/presentation should look like? Think about it and we can share at the next DAC meeting.

Sandness reported that the appetizer menu will be similar to last year's. We did realize that last year we went with several meatless options because it was on a Friday during Lent. That is not the case this year. We can contact the caterer to see what they think.

Jorgensen will be speaking at the Downtown Lions Club and will mention ArtAbility. Garry reported that Anna with the MoVM had requested some pictures of the event for an ad she was doing for the 605 magazine.

Awareness (Horner, Hart, Grimm and Aden – Leader –Aden) – White Cane day will have their initial planning meeting on February 27th.

STWTETW day is March 4, 2015, with the Mayor delivering the proclamation (venue yet to be determined). All of the Sioux Falls high schools and some of the middle schools are participating.

25th Anniversary of the ADA (Lori Lewison, Deb Aden, Kendra Gottsleben, and Michelle Grimm- Leader – Lewison) – The large group had a meeting on January 30th. An event planner has been brought in to help with the event especially in the area of media awareness. They determined there would be three different committees: sponsor/vendor, logistics, and program.

Lewison is the leader of the sponsor/vendor committee. Her goal is to have enough sponsorship so that an individual with a disability who wants to attend can do so at a reduced fee or free. This committee's kickoff meeting will be 2/27.

Moran is the leader of the program committee. Two speakers have already agreed to be keynoters. Their initial meeting will be 2/26. If anyone has any ideas for the program, contact Moran.

Logistics will meet initially on 2/24 and Alex Ramirez will lead this group.

If any DAC member wants to attend any of these meetings or join one of the committees, let staff or Lewison know.

New Business

2015 Goal Setting -

Lewison went over the duties and responsibilities of the Commission as set forth in CH 98.082 of the Code of Ordinances. With that in mind she asked the Commission what goals or projects did they want to accomplish in 2015.

Hart felt it was important that the DAC continue to speak to groups as part of their responsibility to educate. For the next DAC meeting the Awareness committee will be asked to provide an outline for a presentation, a list of the groups available for presentations and a draft contact letter.

Horner would like to see more progress with the COPP program. Moran added that we've been waiting on the ordinance change and she will check to see where that is at. We can still work on getting the message out "don't take my space" while we're waiting for that to happen.

A barrier awareness day was suggested. This would allow individuals to experience a disability - lack of vision or mobility impairment. Garry reported that a past ADA Celebration group came up with a list of these types of activities. She will research and share.

HRC Report

Schaefer provided information about the February Human Relations Commission meeting. He reported that the Commission discussed their budget – in general terms, a civil rights update that included information about a sheriff's office found to be sexually harassing one of their female deputies and a loan company found to be targeting the disadvantaged, specifically African Americans. The HRC also set up three committees – the executive, the outreach, and communication committee.

The HRC discussed having an information booth at Cinco de Mayo (part of the outreach committee's duties to research and organize events) and the Festival of Cultures and Schaefer invited anyone on the DAC who's interested in helping out to let staff know.

Darwin Wolf and Vaney Hariri presented their art project to the HRC. At this time they are looking for endorsement of their project and sponsorship will be sought later on.

Roundtable/Public Comment

Sandness – She is going skiing again. The adaptive skiing event is Feb. 28th.

Jorgensen – She attended "The Superhero Show", which is a mixed-ability theatrical performance with the ILC's cross disability group. ILC is taking applications for their summer transition program for 16 – 21 year-olds. Also, there's a raffle for a Harley motorcycle - \$20 for a ticket.

Schaefer – April 12 is LifeScape's pancake feed at the convention center. Recent mall walk fundraiser raised \$110,000.

Hart – Recently attended a Coalition on Aging meeting – very informative.

Gottsleben – Center for Disabilities Spring Symposium is March 30 – April 1. Garry will forward the details to the Commission. Her book has been published - \$10 on Amazon and will be available at Crossroads.

Horner – This year there are 30 skiers signed up for the adaptive ski event. This year they are having lunch and dinner at Great Bear. They need lots of volunteers. They hope to have more adaptive ski events on a regular basis next year.

Lewison - LifeScape's pancake event costs \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door.

Garry reported that the Mayor has selected Tana Zwart to replace Michele Grimm on the Commission. Her appointment goes before the City Council on March 3 for their approval. If approved her appointment will be in effect 20 days later.

Public Comment: No comments.

Adjournment

Having no further business, Hart moved to adjourn, Gottsleben seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

The next DAC meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2015, 3p.m. in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

These minutes submitted by Carol Garry.