

August 2013 Minutes
Madison City Disability Advocacy Board
Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Date: August 13, 2013

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: City Hall, Conference Room 130

Presiding: Keith Bedsole, Chairperson

Recorder: Joni Haas

Board Members Present: Claudia Rice, Don Gardner, Joni Haas, Cynthia Allison, Keith Bedsole, Gerald Clark, Tracy Butterfield, Jamie Hill

Board Members Absent: Dena Johnson, Kathy Burris

Call to Order: The Chairperson, Keith Bedsole, 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.

Public Comments: Cheryl Smith, Executive Director, UCP came to present the grass roots initiative for Madison County to expand caregiver support. This initiative, "Sharing the Care", is a volunteer initiative to create and increase access to respite resources in order to assist caregivers in receiving a much needed break. Madison County is the 14th community to begin the process and the next meeting will be September 5. This meeting is for assessing the available community resources and caregiver needs. She requested that we spread the word about the meeting in order to have a true cross section of the community attend and share needs and resources not previously identified.

Don Gardner reported that he had been contacted by the James Clemens school group that provided the accessibility video and they would like to do another video for us. Don offered to have them do the video on the need for respite awareness. Don will get with Cheryl to discuss the particulars.

Approval of Minutes: Claudia Rice noted a quorum was present from the regular July 9, 2013 meeting. Claudia made the motion that the minutes, previously distributed to the board, be approved. Don Gardner seconded. All board members present approved the motion; no opposition; one abstention. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Don Gardner provided a copy of the Treasurer's report to all board members present. He reported a balance of \$12,699.53. The only change from the July 9 meeting is the awards expense of \$159.96 (item #3 on financial report).

Brochure – Kathy Burris provided a draft of the brochure. The brochure is needed to pass out at the Madison Street Festival on October 5. Updates were discussed and noted. The last brochure was printed in 2010, 500 for \$220. Claudia will make the suggested changes and get estimate on the reproduction and possibly using color paper. She will bring the results to the next meeting for a vote.

Website renewal – Cynthia Allison reported that it is time for renewal of the website. The renewal will be for 2 years for \$190.80 through a company called Siteground. Claudia motioned to renew the website and continue to use Siteground. Tracy Butterfield seconded, all in favor none opposed. Note, the URL will expire in September 2014. Don suggested this will be funded from the Public Awareness budget.

Monthly Article Reminder – Keith has August issue. Madison Weekly should send article to secretary for viewing and if article not received by the 15th secretary will send reminder.

Annual appropriation request – Discussion tabled until next meeting. Don will speak with Gerald Clark to determine when the request will be needed.

MCDAB Employer Award – Looking for a business in Madison or surrounding area that has hired the disabled from Madison. Jamie Hill provided some suggestions and possibly Botanical Gardens will be a good candidate. Jamie will follow up with the job coach to fill out the paperwork from the website to nominate.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer : We need to be thinking about the annual appropriation request and budget. Some ideas not to forget is a line item for scholarships and have awards in its own category and not in Public Awareness.

Accessibility: Don reported that the Accessibility committee has had minimal attendance due to caregiver/parent responsibilities and possibly the lack of a focus or project. He will continue to correspond with the committee with e-mails. Claudia recommended that Don keep the committee engaged. Don will poll the group for ideas for a focus and possibly a new video with respite as the subject.

Day Services and Housing: Cynthia Allison reported that the August 9 community meeting was postponed waiting for the transfer of the non-profit. It is preferred to have the meeting once the non-profit is in place.

Madison Street Festival – October 5. Claudia has sign-up sheet for 2 hour shifts. Any board member unable to attend please provide a substitute. We will discuss and decide what to do in the booth at the September meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: Don Gardner made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Cynthia Allison seconded. All in favor, none opposed.

Next meeting is September 10, 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).