Office on the Disabled
City of Saint Louis
Advisory Council Meeting
Room 305, City Hall
July 30, 2012

Minutes

David Newburger called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Members present included Wendy Sullivan, Mike Keller, Kerri Morgan, Willie Kimbrough, Jane Thomas, and Linda Baker. Glen Bell, Cynthia McCafferty, Lori Becker, David Newburger and Kim Kreitner were also present. Absent were Gina Hilberry and Bill Sheldon.

Minutes from the July 2nd meeting were adopted.

The next meeting for the advisory council is scheduled on September 24th at 9:00 A.M. in Room 305.

All Ready Presentation with Fleishman-Hillard

Cynthia McCafferty gave an overview of the All Ready Campaign for the advisory council highlighting how the idea of a community summit came about. The program for the summit was broken down—keynote speaker, break-out sessions, and train the trainer with the Red Cross. Mr. Newburger encouraged council members to review Red Cross materials again. Mr. Newburger summed up the need for the summit stating that people with disabilities need to know how to be prepared because they are often last in line during an emergency.

One focus of the summit is that people (organizations) attending will take back the information learned and teach others how to best prepare and care for themselves in event of emergency.

Mr. Keller reinforced the need for summit materials to be in alternate formats such as large print, Braille, and power point. Ms. Baker agreed and reminded everyone that CART service (real time captioning) will be needed for people who are deaf and hard of hearing in addition to interpreters.

Mr. Newburger reminded everyone that contacting duplicate organizations to inform them of the summit was acceptable because crossover was likely to

happen and that a spreadsheet has been created to track who is taking responsibility for contacting each organization.

It was requested that Ms. Kreitner send out updated copies of the Community Summit invitation and Talking Points forms (in word and PDF) to all advisory council members by email. *Completed 8/1/12*

Mr. Newburger expressed concern that RSVP's from local Centers for Independent Living have been low. Ms. Morgan stated that she would take the initiative in contacting athletic organizations and rehabilitation therapists and informing them of the summit. In addition, Ms. Baker will be contacting Pat Dillon, Delta, and DRA and Mr. Kimbrough will be informing associates at Paraquad about the summit.

It was decided and agreed upon by the council that everyone will contact Lori Becker of Fleishman-Hillard (loriannbecker@gmail) whenever you speak to an organization about the summit or if someone needs to be added to the contact goals spreadsheet.

Ms. McCafferty informed the council that media outlets would be contacted regarding the summit. At this time radio and print will be the focus.

Metro Bus Stop Issue

Ms. Thomas raised the issue that Metro is looking into eliminating bus stops and spacing others out further to increase efficiency. Metro is seeking to put at least two blocks between each bus stop. The issue is that not all these paths have accessible sidewalks between them. Per Mr. Kimbrough, Metro has put out flyers stating that if commuters are in need of stops that have been or will be removed that they are encouraged to call Metro. It is of course not a guarantee that the stop will be reinstated but they need to know that there is a need before it will be taken under consideration.

Mr. Bell recommended that Metro drivers inform people while on the bus that particular stops have been slated for removal unless enough people call to request they be kept. While it is not a guarantee that these stops will be kept it is at least a chance for people to advocate for themselves.

Mr. Kimbrough informed the group that if a particular stop is not currently accessible, they will not make it accessible but they (Metro) will also not take away stops that are currently accessible. He also provided numbers for Metro that people can call with more questions or to request stops being kept, 314-982-1400 and 314-982-1406.

Approach Whole City Transition Plan

This subject has been tabled until the next meeting in anticipation of Ms. Hilberry's return.

New Business

Ms. Sullivan brought up that the name change for the Office on the Disabled still needs to be resolved. She requested that the name be more person centered in nature.

Suggestions from council members so far include:
City of Saint Louis Disability Access Office
City of Saint Louis Office for People with Disabilities
City of Saint Louis Office on Disability

Council members are requested to submit other suggestions by email to kreitnerk@stlouis-mo.gov and a vote will be taken at the August 27th meeting. Mr. Newburger reminded council members that a name change will require a new ordinance and that he will need to be strategic with the timing of this change.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Morgan, Secretary