

Anne Arundel Commission on Disability Issues
Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2009

In Attendance:

Alan Vandendriessche
Jeanne Elion
Marsha Dryden
Angela Haney (guest)
Pam Jordan
Stephanie Pippen
Susanne Boyle
Carol Roman (guest)
Gail Smith
Ruth Knox
Nancy Patterson (guest)
Gray Gentil
Lt. Col. Emerson Davis
Richard Scordo
Ginger Palmer
Wendy Scarborough
Diane Detore
Joanna Clark

Nancy Jenkins
Greg Africa
Bill Dixon
Jeff Balentine
Joan Heinicke
Marika Bates (guest speaker)
Julia Schoenster (guest)
James Martin
Kate Rollason
Mary Ann Sabo
Frank Sullivan
Claudia O'Keeffe
Ivan Candelaria
Iris Littig
Francis Wright
Paul Lurz

Excused Absence:

Sandra Roberts
Donna Bower
Patricia Algina
Nancy Choice
Michael Benelli

Unexcused Absence:

Roxanne Sporrer
Terry Clay
Michelle Dilegge-Goldfein

Everyone was reminded that there was no CART services today and to please use a microphone when speaking.

Guest Speaker:

Ms. Marika Bates, the acting chairperson for the Maryland/D.C./Delaware Chapter of Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America. Ms. Bates informed the Commission about a rare and disabling neuromuscular disorder which diminishes the transmission of the nerve impulse to voluntary muscles. She showed a video which explained how Myasthenia Gravis affects people with this condition

Introduction and Approval of Minutes:

Introductions were given. Minutes from the 2/24/09 meeting were approved with no additional changes☺.

ADA Coordinator Report:

Pam Jordan reported the Department of Aging and Disabilities will be having a retreat on March 31st. Pam thanked Dr. Baker for wanting to bring disability awareness to the department employees.

Old Business:

Annual Reports-

- 2007 Annual Report- Completed and on file in the Department of Aging and Disabilities.
- 2008 Annual Report- Completed and ready for distribution

New Business:

Disability Awareness Day (DAD)-

- Review of the 2009 DAD Nominations for the Honoree Award and a vote resulted in the unanimous approval of Vicki Callahan; Executive Director of Opportunity Builders, Inc. has been selected as the 2009 DAD Honoree. The Commission voted and it was a unanimous approval.

Committee Reports:

Web Site:

This Committee will merge with the Public Relations committee.

Transportation:

There is no change on the 921 bus; the committee will continue to keep the commission updated on the status. Ginger provided information on a transportation survey to Joan. Joan will review the information and email the survey to the appropriate members to complete by the March 31st deadline.

Public Relation:

Alan will be the “Volunteer of Month” for the month of April 2009, in the publication “What’s Up Annapolis”. With the help of ex-officio member Terry Clay, Anne Arundel Community College is having a competition to develop a new symbol and tag line for the Commission.

Membership:

Currently there is only one position available on the Commission. Two individuals have completed the interview process. We are now waiting for an appointment to be made by the County Executive. The individuals are present at the meeting today.

Legislation:

The committee met before the Commission meeting today. Jim Martin reviewed the bills that were discussed. He will send out an email with information so members can vote on the bills. Last month the committee was able to bring a few bills to the attention of the County Executive for his support. (Ginger previously sent out an email to the Commission asking them to vote on bringing these bills to the attention of the County Executive and majority ruled to do so.) Jim Martin is still working on scheduling a meeting with Inspection and Permits and Planning and Zoning to discuss "Access for All".

Housing:

No report.

Children/Education/Recreation:

Still receiving feedback from the survey sent out involving educational services for children. Once the committee reviews the information, an update will be given to the Commission.

Bylaws:

No report.

Announcements:

- Stephanie Pippen announced there are two meetings coming up that maybe of interest to the commissioners and she passed out flyers on each event.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm. Next meeting is April 28th, 2009.