

Anne Arundel Commission on Disability Issues
2664 Riva Road, Suite 170, the Independence Conference Room
Annapolis, MD 21401
May 23, 2017, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

Commission Members In Attendance	
Debra Luzietti-Myers	John Leopold
Bolling Haxall	Iris Littig
Ginger Palmer	Maryann Sabo
Geoffe Riefe	Vicki Callahan
Jeanne Elion	Richard Scordo
Nancy Jenkins	John Barnes
Andrea Bertrand	Barbara McCord
Colleen O’Neill Yanchulis	Jane Sinclair
Commission Non-Voting Members In Attendance	
None	
ADA Coordinator’s Office In Attendance	
Joelle Ridgeway	Vickie Martin
Ex-Officios Non-Voting Members In Attendance	
Dawn Thomas	Jan Holland
Kyle Tibbs	Audrey Sellers
Isha Alston	Becky Hass
Sara Gannon	Janet Pantaleo
Ryan Stewart	Lt. Steven Thomas
Guests in Attendance	
Susan Engles	Brendon Fox
Alan Vandendriessche	Chrissy Calp

Debra Luzietti-Myers introduced Christina Calp, the Emergency Management planner with the Anne Arundel County Office of Emergency Management. In this role, Christina coordinates all aspects of emergency planning, including emergency response, recovery, and mitigation.

Christy talked to the Commission members about how to put together an emergency preparedness kit for different types of situations. She identified some of the items that should be in each kit and how to use them. She also announced that those with pets should also prepare a kit with supplies for them, too.

She concluded her presentation talking about communications in the event of emergencies. Lt. Tim Schultz is going to investigate what kind of program is being used by the police for those folks with disabilities.

Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes with the following changes: Public Relations report is listed twice, and there are some grammatical corrections that need to be made. Nancy Jenkins will send corrections to Vickie.

ADA Coordinator's Report

Joelle Ridgeway reported that for the month of April there were seven ADA issues. Four were Title II. The other three were fair housing. The fair housing issues pertained to parking.

She reported that she;

- attended a meeting at the school system,
- attended webinars on vehicles and emergency planning,
- gave a lateral police officer training,
- participated in an ADA community living research consortium webinar,
- went to the disability summit at the University of Maryland,
- went to the Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc. Fair housing event and shared the video with the Commission,
- working with Annapolis ex-officio Kyle Tibbs to figure out a way to better support people who have fair housing issues,
- working on the Anne Arundel County self-evaluation and transition plan
- attended assistive technology training offered by DORS,
- visited the shelter sites with Office of Emergency Management, looked at the accessibility of each and discussed other issues that may come up.
- with Brandy Francis, gave a radio interview on person first language for people with disabilities.

A question and answer session followed.

OLD BUSINESS - None

Annual Report

Debra Luzietti-Myers announced that the Commission's annual report has been approved and can now be forwarded to the County Council.

DisABILITY Awareness Day

Ginger Palmer announced that she sent an e-mail to all Commission members with an attachment that identified the criteria for an honoree along with an attached list of all past honoree awardees. She reported the deadline to receive all recommendations is June 21, so the Commission can vote on an honoree at the June 27th Commission meeting.

Ginger reported that the Executive Committee looked at DAD's budget and discussed the income vs. expenses at the last meeting. It was agreed to raise the exhibitor table fee to \$65.00 this year. Any exhibitor who needs electric will pay \$75.00. Rates have not been raised in six (6) years.

Ginger announced she will send out a list of other past awardees once the honoree has been voted on in June.

Jeanne Elion suggested that the DAD committee note on the program this year that DAD is celebrating its tenth year at the mall.

Federal legislation, HR 620

Debra Luzietti-Myers announced that the Commission voted to oppose the HR 620 legislation, start the process to make a recommendation to the county executive, and request his approval to go forward as a commission in opposition. Debra announced that the committee will draft a letter to the County Executive.

Chesapeake Regional Accessible Boating, CRAB Proposal

Jeanne Elion has agreed to chair the committee. An email was sent to everyone regarding the status. The committee is presently looking at other alternatives.

Kyle Tibbs attended the Executive Committee on May 9 and discussed the city's position on CRAB's proposal.

Executive Committee Meetings

Debra Luzietti-Myers announced that the Executive Committee is an open meeting and invited all Commission members to attend. The meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month and start at 12:30 pm.

Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Debra Luzietti-Myers announced the Maryland Department of Natural Resources was creating a committee to address disabilities and accessible resources within the Department of Natural Resources. Joelle announced that they are working on ADA specific projects statewide.

The Artists Without Limits Exhibit

Richard Scordo announced that the committee is taking down the artwork from the Arundel Center on June 1 at 10:00 a.m. Vickie Martin will send an e-mail out to all of the participants who want to pick up their artwork. The artwork will be available for pick up at the Independence Resource and Conference Center after June 1, 2017. Rebecca Hass, who is with the Anne Arundel Public Library system, has agreed to show the donated artwork at the Glen Burnie library art show in December.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business reported

COMIITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

The committee has been reviewing the CRAB proposal. Kyle Tibbs sent the committee information regarding community grants through the city.

Legislative Matters

Ginger Palmer reported the committee reviewed ten bills. A position was taken on 4 of the bills. The committee wrote letters in support of three of the bills. The fourth bill was supported but moved too quickly before a letter was drafted.

The bill regarding hunting and fishing licenses for disabled veterans and active military was approved by the governor on May 4.

The ABLE Act, achieving better life experience, was approved by the governor.

The Board of Professional Counselors and the Therapists for Maryland Musical Therapist Act was introduced by the House was given an unfavorable report and was withdrawn.

The Independent Living Tax Credit was passed, approved, and signed by the governor.

The Developmental Disabilities Administration Crisis Resolution received an unfavorable report from the House and was withdrawn.

Bill HB 620, a motion was made, seconded and carried for the legislation committee to review bill HR 620, review it and get back with the Commission.

Ginger Palmer announced that the committee has been discussing issues regarding parking for people with handicap tags, traffic court judges and how they assess handicap parking fines.

Membership

Iris Littig announced that it is time for any member whose term will expire by the end of August to send a request for re-appointment. The re-appointment letter should be addressed to the county executive, c/o Joelle Ridgeway, and please mail all reappointment letters to Joelle Ridgeway. The members who are expiring the end of August are; Debra Luzietti-Myers, Barbara McCord, Dr. Robert Ireland and Jessica Yeager.

Public Relations

John Barnes announced that the committee wants to use Facebook to promote all activities. He introduced Brandon Fox, an intern, who will be helping with the site. Brandon walked the Commission through the steps to locate the Facebook page and asked for everyone to like the page and subscribe to receive posts and/or updates. Everyone was asked to share the information to reach a bigger audience. Anyone with announcements of upcoming events regarding the disability community should send them to John Barnes to post once they are approved by the Department of Aging.

Public Safety Outreach

Nancy Jenkins reported that there is training scheduled for the Fire Department on May 24, 2017. Joelle Ridgeway, Nancy Jenkins and L. Denise Portis will be in attendance. The committee had lateral police training on April 18, 2017. The committee plans to meet with Kyle Tibbs to discuss training for the Annapolis police. A tour of the Glen Burnie detention center is being planned and the Commission is welcome to attend. Details will be provided at a later date.

It was announced that an email is circulating about the training the Pathfinders for Autism are giving to first responders and the hospitals. Public Safety will take a look at this.

Transportation

Richard Scordo has finished the comprehensive information sheet for public transportation and announced that the next step is to dress it up and post on the website.

Architecture, Accessibility, and Housing

No report.

Education, Recreation, and Community Support

MaryAnn Sabo reported the committee met and are working on questions for a survey to identify the needs of the young adult population. The committee is planning to discuss with Anne Arundel Community College academic office about utilizing the nursing programs service learning hours to benefit these young adults and discuss possible ideas for this group. Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks started a young adult program in the spring and it was offered to the northern area of the county. The committee would like to discuss with Recreation and Parks the possibility of expanding the area of this program.

Alliance

Most of meeting was about the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights, which used to be the Maryland Human Resources Commission.

Ex-Officio Reports

Rebecca Hass, Anne Arundel County Public Libraries, reported that the new "Happenings" is out and brought copies to distribute. She announced that all ages can preregister for the summer reading program and asked for everyone to sign up. She also announced that the library will have ADA stations at a number of the county branches. Rebecca proposed that the Commission hold one of its meetings at the Glen Burnie branch in the future. A motion was made, seconded and carried to hold a meeting at the Glen Burnie library comma here once it is accessible. Vote was 11 for, 1 opposed.

Greg Africa, Anne Arundel Public Works, announced that the construction contract for the Harper Street Forest Drive intersection has been awarded. The work will begin soon.

Isha Alston announced that effective June 1, at the Anne Arundel County Department of Health, the health officer, Dr. Jin Ling Chan has been asked to serve at the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene as the interim Deputy Secretary of Health for the next 3-5 months. Fran Phillips, who is a former health officer and former Deputy Secretary of Health, will be the interim health officer.

Other announcements

Debra Luzietti-Myers announced that there has been a change of personnel at the police academy.

Lieutenant Daniel Rodriguez, who has been coordinating and working with the commission for four years, has taken a new post. Lieutenant Tim Schultz is the new academy commander and will be working with the Commission until further notice.

Jeanne Elion announced that on Sunday, June 4 at 1:00 pm is the annual Fireman's Memorial Service at the Fireman's Memorial in downtown Annapolis where they honor those who have fallen. She also announced that Nancy Patterson and her dog were in an automobile accident and neither one was hurt. However, her vehicle has been destroyed.

Vicki Callahan announced that the organization that prepares the disaster preparedness kits earlier in the meeting is www.ready.gov.

Meeting adjourned.

[Meeting ended at 3:11 p.m.]