

Disability Advisory Board Meeting

November 13, 2017

The meeting of the Orange County Disability Advisory Board was called to order at 2:09 p.m. on Monday November 13, 2017, at 2100 E. Michigan St., Second Floor ABC Conference Room, Orlando, FL 32806. Chairperson Brian Michaels opened the meeting and roll was taken by Vice-Chairperson Kirk Root. Board members present were: Chairperson Brian Michaels, Vice-Chairperson Kirk Root, Joe Waczewski, Sandra Algarin, and Elizabeth McCarthy. Not present were: Tiffany E. Namey and Marcelino Rivera. Orange County ADA Program Manager Karen Ashmeade was also in attendance. A quorum was established and all present in the room pledged allegiance to the flag.

Public Comments

There were no public comments at this meeting.

Welcome and Introductions

Michaels welcomed board members and advisors/attendees to the meeting. Disability Advisory Board Community Advisors present were: Lisa M. Rivera, LogistiCare; and Maryann Wittlin, Primrose Center. Also present was Bill Cowles with the Orange County Supervisor of Elections Office.

Presentation

Bill Cowles with the Orange County Supervisor of Elections Office presented on the new express voting machines, provided general information on the now available online voter registration website, gave a 2018 election overview, and also shared with the board the types of education programs that are needed to help voters in different capacities; language barriers, accessibility, etc.

Board Member Reports

Algarin advised that enrollment was open for the Affordable Care Act and provided the names of two agencies that could provide residents assistance with applying; Covering

Florida and Health Funds. McCarthy also shared that Blue Health Centers were available to aid with insurance needs if a resident was denied coverage.

Michaels advised that the Division of Blind Services was in the process of revising their current policies to align with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. With increased coordination and education of employers, the hope is more residents will have the ability to gain employment.

Community Advisor Reports

Lisa M. Rivera extended an invitation to LogistiCare's upcoming meeting. The meeting will include transportation providers and dialysis facilities representatives from Orange County. The group will discuss current transportation challenges and shortfalls, in hopes of creating solutions. The meeting will be held on Thursday November 30th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Orange County Facilities Training Room, 2010 E. Michigan St., Orlando FL. 32806.

Maryann Wittlin with the Primrose Center briefly discussed the programs her agency offers – employment services, adult training, etc.

Subcommittee Member Reports

Ad-hoc Legislative Subcommittee October meeting was cancelled – no updates were available.

Ad-hoc Veterans Subcommittee September meeting was cancelled – no updates were available.

New Business – ADA Program Manager Report/County News/Introductions

Ashmeade referenced and discussed an email that was sent to the board and advisors regarding HB 727, Accessibility of Places of Public Accommodation. Ashmeade also provided a summary of H.R 620, ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017.

Action Items to Vote on or Discuss

Board members were issued copies of draft minutes from the May 8, 2017, June 12th, and October 9, 2017 meetings to review. A quorum was established so Michaels requested a motion to approve all minutes. McCarthy motioned, motion was seconded by Waczewski and Algarin. The motion passed unanimously.

Algarin expressed interest in joining the Veterans Ad-hoc subcommittee. Michaels requested a motion for a vote to elect Algarin. Waczewski motioned, motioned was seconded by Root. The motion passed unanimously.

Michaels expressed interest in continuing on with his current role of Chairperson; no other board members or persons outside the board officially expressed interest. Algarin requested a motion for a vote to reelect Michaels as Chairperson for 2018. Waczewski motioned, motion seconded by McCarthy. The motion passed unanimously.

Root expressed interest in continuing on with his current role of Vice-Chairperson; no other board members or persons outside the board officially expressed interest. Waczewski motioned to reelect Root, motioned was seconded by Michaels. The motion passed unanimously.

Waczewski expressed interest in joining the Legislative Ad-hoc subcommittee. Algarin motioned to elect Waczewski, motioned was seconded by McCarthy. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjournment

Ashmeade congratulated Michaels and Root on their reelection, and also congratulated Algarin and Waczewski on their new sub-committee roles. Michaels requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Root motioned to adjourn, motion was seconded by Waczewski, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next Disability Advisory Board meeting will be held on Monday December 11, 2017 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – 2100 E. Michigan Street, ABC Conference Room 2nd Floor, Orlando, FL. 32806.