

Disability Advisory Board Meeting

February 12, 2018

The meeting of the Orange County Disability Advisory Board was called to order at 2:10 p.m. on Monday February 12, 2018, at 2100 E. Michigan St., Second Floor ABC Conference Room, Orlando, FL 32806. Elizabeth McCarthy opened the meeting and Vice Chairperson Kirk Root called roll. Board members present were: Vice Chairperson Kirk Root, Elizabeth McCarthy, Sandra Algarin, and Karolyn Campbell. Not present were: Joe Waczewski. 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

McCarthy welcomed board members and advisors/attendees to the meeting. Disability Advisory Board Community Advisors present were: Jascinth Lawrence, Center for Independent Living; Johny V. Pierre, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR); Dr. Stephanie Wheeler, University of Central Florida.

Presentation

There were no presentations given.

Board Member Reports

There were no reports from our board.

Community Advisor Reports

Lawrence spoke on the services offered by the Center for Independent Living, including but not limited to Foundation to Freedom, Aspire to Hire, and the Deaf Services Program. Lawrence also touched on other services that the community may be unaware are offered like, tax preparation, citizenship assistance and youth skill training programs.

Pierre discussed the STAR program which is geared towards young people with disabilities age 14 and up. Pierre also discussed some of the requirements for that program.

Wheeler shared information on some important bills in Congress that can potentially adversely impact the disabled community. Wheeler spoke on working with the Orlando Trust Coalition, and their

work to urge law makers to pass protections for immigrants. Wheeler also mentioned having students that would be able to possibly assist the Board on a volunteer basis with special projects.

Subcommittee Member Reports

Algarin provided a brief summary of January's Veterans sub-committee meeting.

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

Ashmeade updated those present on the board member resignations that occurred during January's meeting (Brian Michaels, Tiffany Namey, Marcelino Rivera). Ashmeade informed the board that we will have two new board members joining. Ashmeade shared with the board all the ideas that were forwarded to her regarding areas of focus for 2018. Ashmeade also advised that a new Chairperson is needed, and asked board members to inform her of their interest prior to March's board meeting as an election would be held.

Action Items to Vote on or Discuss

Board members were issued copies of draft minutes from the January 8, 2018 meeting to review. A quorum was established so McCarthy requested a motion to approve the minutes. Campbell motioned, motion was seconded by Root, there was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

In the January's Veterans sub-committee meeting, Campbell expressed interest in joining the sub-committee. A motion was made by Algarin for Campbell to become a Veterans sub-committee member, motion was seconded by McCarthy, and the motion passed unanimously. Campbell is now a Veterans sub-committee member.

There was a discussion on whether to dissolve the Legislative sub-committee. Algarin motioned to discontinue the Legislative sub-committee until interest resurfaced to consider it again in the future. Motion was second by McCarthy, and the motion passed unanimously.

Board members discussed, voted on and passed unanimously the areas of focus for 2018. The months and topics are as follows along with an elaboration on each topic. The order is contingent on the person's/organizations availability:

Disability Advisory Board Areas of Focus - 2018				
Month		Topic		
March		Yearly Board Members Training		
April		Art		
May		Emergency Management/Red Cross		
June		Second Harvest Food Bank		
July		Transportation - Paratransit and Regular Routes		
August		Recovery & Remodeling		
September		Municipal Compliance		
October		Wrap Up		

March – Mandatory Board Member Training. All board members must attend as the yearly training is a requirement.

April – Algarin will research events geared around art and music therapy; Ashmeade and Lawrence will assist if needed. Ashmeade will then check availability and aim to schedule a presentation for the board. Ashmeade will then work to send that information to parent advisory groups, and will make contact with Orange County Public Schools Representatives so the information could be delivered to parents of children with special needs.

May – Ashmeade will arrange a meeting with Emergency Management and/or Red Cross personnel and request that a presentation be delivered to the board.

June – Ashmeade will contact Second Harvest Food Bank and request a presentation specific to their outreach geared towards the disabled community.

July – Ashmeade will coordinate with Lynx/ MetroPlan Orlando to deliver a presentation regarding paratransit and regular routes.

August – Ashmeade to research organizations that focus on home modifications for persons with disabilities; ramps, grab bars, etc. Also, Ashmeade will research entities that aid disabled citizens with home repairs after a hurricane, inclement weather, wind, hail, etc. if there is no homeowner's insurance in place.

September – Ashmeade will contact the County/Public Works regarding compliance efforts in the community. A presentation will be requested.

October – Wrap Up. Discuss previous month's successes and areas of opportunity for upcoming year.

The board voted that if any of the above presentations are not possible, Orlando United Cerebral Palsy of Central Florida can be considered as a back up.

Meeting Adjournment

Root motioned to adjourned meeting at 3:56 p.m. The next Disability Advisory Board meeting will be held on Monday March 12, 2018 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. – 2100 E. Michigan Street, ABC Conference Room 2nd Floor, Orlando, FL. 32806.

APPROVED