

Disability Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Orange County Disability Advisory Board (DAB) was called to order at 2:35 p.m. on Monday January 14, 2019, at 2100 E. Michigan St., Second Floor ABC Conference Room, Orlando, FL 32806. Chairperson Sandra Algarin opened the meeting and proceeded to call roll. Board members present: Chairperson Sandra Algarin, Joe Waczewski, Karolyn Campbell, Supervisor Daisy Morales, and Theresa Smith. Orange County Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Program Manager Karen Ashmeade was also in attendance. Board members not present: Beverly Jackson and Dyolena Jules. A quorum was established and all present pledged allegiance to the flag.

Public Comments

David Bottomley, Orlando County resident and advocate for Americans with Disabilities spoke on the importance of public meeting places being ADA complaint. Bottomley attended a workshop and had a difficult time navigating the venue in his wheelchair. Bottomley stated he would continue bringing these issues to the attention of those that can impact change.

Welcome and Introductions

Algarin welcomed the board members, community partners, and members of the public. One new board member was also welcomed – Jen Vargas. Vargas shared a little about herself and why she became interested in joining the board. Vargas shared that she writes an opinion piece in the Orlando Sentinel. Vargas also communicated to the board that there was an app “Parking Mobility” available which allows you to report illegally parked cars in handicap spaces.

A new community partner to the board, Nathan Washington of Care Plus was also in attendance. Washington spoke on some parameters associated with Medicaid/Medicare, and agreed to provide additional in-depth information via a presentation to the board.

Roxy Santiago with the Orange County MMRB was also in attendance. Santiago introduced herself and spoke briefly on her role with the County as it relates to advisory boards.

Presentations

There were no presentations during January’s meeting.

Board Member Reports

Campbell spoke on assistance that she was able to provide in the community.

Smith spoke on volunteer work she did in the community with her teenage son which involved delivering meals to the homeless.

Morales attended a technology summit hosted by the University of Central Florida and shared some information regarding exciting new tech that is being developed.

Algarin attended the Mexican and Columbian Consulate Health Expos.

Vargas volunteered her time and participated in an event at the Citrus Bowl.

Community Advisor Reports

There were no community reports at this meeting.

Subcommittee Member Reports

The veterans subcommittee was on break for the holiday months. There were no subcommittee reports at this meeting.

New Business – ADA Program Manager Report/County News

Kirk Root has resigned from the DAB, and hopes to return in the near future. Ashmeade thanked the board and community partners for their continued support of the board, and reiterated the importance of attendance.

Action Items to Vote on or Discuss

Minutes from the September 10, 2018 and October 8, 2018 board meetings were presented to the board for approval. Campbell motioned with a second from Waczewski. Motion carried and the minutes were approved.

The board discussed the 2019 objectives for the board. The board voted to focus on health education and transportation. Motion was made by Waczewski with a second from Smith. Motion carried and the 2019 objectives were approved.

Ashmeade suggested partnering with LYNX on the objectives and the board agreed. Ashmeade will contact LYNX and communicate back to the board in February's meeting. The board discussed 2019 presentations. February, there will be a presentation from the Social Security Administration; March will be the board's yearly training; April, Nathan Washington with Care Plus will present on Medicaid/Medicare; May, Ashmeade will coordinate with Orange County Community Action for a presentation on weatherization.

The board also discussed breaking for the summer months (June, July, and August) and returning in September. Motion was made by Algarin with a second from Smith. Motion carried and 2019 presentations and summer break was approved.

Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m. The next Disability Advisory Board meeting will be held Monday February 11, 2019 at 2:30 p.m. The location will be 2100 E. Michigan Street, 2nd Floor ABC Conference Room, Orlando, FL. 32806.