

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, May 13, 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, Vice Chairperson Supervisor Daisy Morales, Joe Waczewski, Theresa Smith, Jen Vargas, and Kirk Root. Also present was the Orange County ADA Program Manager Karen Ashmeade. Board Member not present: Karolyn Campbell, Beverly Jackson, and Tricia Dennis. A quorum was established and all present pledged allegiance to the flag.

Public Comments

David Bottomley (Orange County Resident) spoke on the ADA transition plan for Orange County, and was interested in hearing updates from our presenter. Bottomley shared with the board information for the upcoming "Family Café" – June 7th – 9th (currently accepting registrations).

Diana Font (Orange County Resident) spoke on available assistance for those with brain and spinal cord injuries, and organizations that can provide assistance.

Welcome and Introductions

Algarin welcomed the board members, community partners and members of the public. Meeting attendees were as follows:

Dianna Font, DM Font Events, Citizen; David Bottomley, Disability Advocate and Citizen; and presenter Alissa Torres with Orange County Transportation Planning Division. The board also welcomed Kirk Root; former member that has rejoined the board.

Presentation

Alissa Torres with the Orange County Transportation Planning Division delivered a presentation on proposed changes to the Orange County Code for Pedestrian Safety/ADA needs. Torres touched on sidewalks, pedestrian paths, street crossings, curb ramps, etc. Torres also discussed measures that would address Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) to ensure the public could safely navigate work zones. The board posed questions surrounding repair prioritization, road resurfacing, etc., and Torres provided answers.

Action Items to Vote on or Discuss

Ashmeade presented minutes from the March 11, 2019 and April 8, 2019 meetings for approval. The minutes were reviewed and there was no discussion. A motion was made by Smith to approve the minutes, with a second by Waczewski. Motion carried and minutes were unanimously approved.

Board Member Reports

Vargas thanked the board for their condolences and continued support surrounding the passing of her mother.

Morales spoke on the success of the April 27th Earth Day parade. Morales noticed that members of the disabled community participated in the parade, and was not met with any accessibility barriers.

Algarin informed the board of the upcoming "Orlando Mayor's Job Fair" presented by the Central Florida Employment Council on May 15th.

Community Partners Reports

No Community Partner reports.

Subcommittee Members Reports

Ashmeade informed the board that the subcommittee was brainstorming presenters, and a name for the upcoming Expo.

New Business – ADA Program Manager Report/County News

Ashmeade informed the board that she made contact with Orange TV to get the process started with securing the studio for the Expo. Ashmeade reminded the board that they are not slated to meet again until September, but she would be in constant touch as the board's assistance would be needed with Expo planning.

Ashmeade asked the board for presenter ideas, and provided was: Tommie Maldonado with Orange County Veterans Services; Benefits, and the Disability Chamber (president has since passed away).

Ashmeade recommended a Community Resources section, and the board provided ideas like: brain and spinal cord information; dental; mental health and wellness; and the Wounded Warrior Project.

Ashmeade will coordinate with potential providers and update the board on her findings.

Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. **The board is on a summer break through the summer months, and will return on Monday September 9, 2019.** Have a great and safe summer and we look forward to seeing you at our next meeting!