

Lafayette City-Parish President's Awareness Committee for Citizens with Disabilities

Monday, January 14, 2008
Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Harold Arceneaux, Jim Richard, Richard Phelps, Peggy Stelly

Board Member Excused: Paul Fontana

Guests in Attendance: Deborah Aymond, Robert Bell, Chip Lorio, Linda Trahan

Staff Present: Mike Mitchell, Lou Anna Angelle

1. Lou Anna Angelle called the meeting to order. She welcomed Jim Richard, the new committee member. The committee members elected Jim Richard to Chair the committee. The minutes from the meeting in October and November were approved. Jim Richard then introduced the guests: Robert Bell, Disability Program Navigator and Chip Lorio, Workforce Investment Board Monitor.

Robert Bell, Disability Program Navigator provided the committee with a brief description of his job.

The following information was provided about the Navigator's position:

- He will be developing and maintaining relationships with advocacy groups, organizations and agencies that facilitate the employment of people with disabilities.
- Develop resources for businesses to support the employment of people with disabilities.
- He informed the committee that the assisted devices have been ordered for the One Stop Center. The equipment should be received in the next 30 days.
- Ticket to Work was briefly discussed by Robert Bell and Harold Arceneaux.

The committee members asked that mental health be addressed by the Navigator.

Robert Bell can be contacted at the following phone number: 337-356-1483

2. Correspondence

No correspondence to report

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3. Phone calls

No phone calls to report.

4. Old Business

Lou Anna Angelle provided the committee with a brief summary of the Para transit surveys that were received since the last meeting. The committee selected Jim Richard and Peggy Stelly to continue the efforts started by the committee regarding the Para Transit survey forms. Lou Anna Angelle will contact the Council's Office regarding the date of the next Council of Government's Meeting (COG).

Peggy Stelly provided the committee with information regarding an upcoming workshop sponsored by Easter Seals, People on the Move: Using All Transportation Options (ADA and Beyond...) A free "train the trainer" initiative to increase accessible transportation in your community.

5. Peggy Stelly and Harold Arceneaux had a brief discussion with Mike Mitchell regarding the Para transit service.
6. The committee requested that Ben Berthelot contact UL and the Chamber for their appointment to the committee.
7. Deborah Aymond, Louisiana Rehabilitation Service (LRS), informed the committee that she was working at LRS and would be available to answer any questions. Her email is as follows: daymond@dss.stae.la.us
8. The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

The next meeting of the President's Awareness Committee for Citizens with Disabilities is scheduled for February 11, 2008 from 11:30 – 12:30 in the Council Briefing Room on the first floor of City Hall.