



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

Monday, November 10, 2008
Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Harold Arceneaux; Jim Richard; Peggy Stelly; Deborah Aymond
Guests in Attendance: Mark Guillory; Melody Cooper; Yvonne Bell
Staff Present: Mike Mitchell; Dana McPherson; Ben Berthelot; Lou Anna Angelle

1. Jim Richard called the meeting to order.
2. The minutes of the October meeting were approved by the committee.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

None to report.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

- Update on the Voucher System

Dana McPherson informed the committee that she contacted City Cab and he is working on his zone prices. The Planning Department has been contacted on using the St. Landry action plan regarding cab service.

- Flyer for Para-Transit passengers

The flyer has been completed by Dana and will be emailed to the committee members.

- Update on the Disability Job Fair

Deborah Aymond provided the committee with a brief summary of the outcome of the Disability Job Fair that was held at the Heymann Performing Arts Ballroom.

- Big success
- 400 attendees
- 308 attendees were seeking jobs
- 35 businesses participated

Harold Arceneaux indicated that he feels that the Heymann Center is not in compliance with ADA Standards. There was a brief discussion about this and it was decided that Yvonne Bell will contact the Southwest Louisiana Independent Center, Inc. (SLIC) to possibly do a survey of the building.

- Vacancy on the committee

The Lafayette City-Parish Council has nominated Yvonne Bell to replace Richard Phelps on the Disability Awareness Committee.

Ben Berthelot reported that he contacted the Chamber regarding its appointment and an appointment should be made by the next meeting.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- Leadership Training

The committee briefly discussed starting a Leadership Training Program. The committee is going to look at this further.

- Transportation Related Issues

The committee discussed the passbooks that are being sold by Lafayette Transit Division. Mike Mitchell indicated in an email that the riders can call the Transit Office for instructions on how to purchase the passbooks.

Peggy Stelly shared her concerns with the problems encountered when attempting to schedule rides for the Para-transit Service. She mentioned the following complaints:

- Riders are placed on hold for a long period of time
- On several occasions they are told to call back in 15 minutes and when they attempt to call back, no one answers
- Her main concern is scheduling the Para-transit rides in the time period needed to confirm a ride for upcoming doctor's appointments.
- She indicated that she called the office at 4:28 one day and was told that it was after 4:30 and they were no longer taking reservations. On occasions when this happens, it

causes problem for the riders that needed to schedule a ride that day, because of an upcoming doctor's appointment that was just scheduled.

Harold Arceneaux would like to have the bus drivers involved in some form of sensitivity training. Yvonne Bell suggested that all departments of the Lafayette Consolidated Government be provided with sensitivity training. This will be looked into by the committee.

6. Melody Cooper, Disability Navigator, was introduced to the group by Mark Guillory.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.
8. The next meeting of the President's Awareness Committee for Citizens with Disabilities is scheduled for **Monday, December 8, 2008** from **11:30-12:30** in the **Council Briefing Room** on the first floor of Lafayette City Hall.

Lou

November 29, 2012