



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

Monday, May 10, 2010

Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Deborah Aymond; Jim Richard; Peggy Stelly
Guests in Attendance: Randy Broussard; Mark Guillory; Danielle Watkins
LCG Staff Present: Carlee Alm-Labar; Lou Anna Angelle

1. Jim Richard called the meeting to order.
2. The committee was unable to approve the April minutes due to a lack of a quorum.
3. Carlee Alm-LaBar, Assistant to the City-Parish President Joey Durel, was introduced to the committee. She will be replacing Ben Berthelot as the liaison from the President's Office.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

None to report

**5. GUEST – Jermaine Proshee,
Disability Navigator for Louisiana Workforce Commission**

Deborah Aymond introduced Jermaine Proshee, Disability Navigator for Louisiana Workforce Commission. Mr. Proshee is working in Alexandria and Lafayette Parish is one of the districts he has been assigned. He is very interested in making the 2010 Disability Job Fair a success. The event will be held on Thursday, October 21, 2010, 9 a.m. to noon, at the Heymann Center. Deborah and Mr. Proshee requested the committee, once again, co-sponsor the event. This matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

Jermaine Proshee informed the committee that this year's event will be tracked closely, and he will be able to tell how many of the participants were actually hired after the event. He thanked the committee for assisting with this year's event.

Deborah Aymond informed the committee that the next planning meeting for the 2010 Job Fair will be held on May 20th @ 10:00 a.m., at the LRS Office, and the committee is invited to attend. She also informed the committee that Ryan LaGrange, LEDA Workforce Development Director, has been very helpful assisting with this year's event.

Mark Guillory provided the committee with a brief summary of the equipment that the Workforce Development Office has on-site to assist disabled applicants looking for a job.

6. Peggy Stelly provided the committee with the following information regarding the upcoming events for Blindness Awareness Week:



Affiliated Blind of Louisiana, Inc.
Training Center



**Blindness Awareness Week Calendar
May 15-May 21, 2010**

Saturday, May 15, 2010 – Reading in the Dark

Barnes and Noble Bookstore is hosting a special event featuring accessible books for the blind and visually impaired. Come and learn about Braille books and recorded books and music. Affiliated Blind of Louisiana is proud to present Ms. Diane Dozart, author of “Fatal Friendship”. You can also support the services provided by ABL, a percentage of all proceeds are given to Affiliated Blind of Louisiana.

Sunday, May 16 – Braille the Zoo 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The Zoo of Acadiana has launched a campaign to bring the zoo into the hands of the blind, visually impaired, and deaf/blind of our community. This would be the first zoo in the United States to take the innovative steps to presenting the zoo in an accessible format for the blind. Come to the zoo and touch the brick sculpture and also get to touch the animals!

**Monday, May 17 – Fun in the Dark at the Children’s Museum
9:00am – 12:00pm**

Enjoy time at the *Children’s Museum of Acadiana*. Bring your kids to learn about how blind individuals can have fun. Learn about cane travel, Braille, and much more. You can even put on a blind fold and try it yourself...

Tuesday, May 18 - Teaching Elementary Students about Blindness 10:30am

Affiliated Blind of Louisiana will be introducing Braille and cane travel to a group of Elementary students at *Breaux Bridge Primary School*.

Thursday, May 20 – White Cane “Walk to Independence” and Play Beeping Baseball at Girard Park

Come join students and members of the ABL organization for a walk from the Affiliated Blind of Louisiana Training Center on 409 W. St. Mary Blvd. to *Girard Park*. (Walk beginning @ 8:30 a.m.)

This walk promotes awareness of white cane laws and the freedom and independence symbolized by the white cane. We will have a picnic in the park and play beep baseball. This game is played with beeping baseballs and bases. Come and join the fun!

Thursday, May 20 – Swish in the Shade 4:00pm-8:00pm

Just score a basketball goal with sleep shades on and get a chance to score a \$100 gift card from The Incredible Pizza Co. of Lafayette. You will also get to learn more about the services provided by Affiliated Blind of Louisiana.

Friday, May 21 – White Canes at Downtown Live 5:30 p.m.

Look for ABL at *Downtown Live*! Affiliated Blind of Louisiana will have a table set up to educate the public on white cane safety, Braille, and many other services provided to the blind, visually impaired, and deaf/blind of our community.

For more information call: Chyvonne W. Blanchard at Affiliated Blind of Louisiana Training Center at 800-319-4444 or chyvonneb@affiliatedblind.org.

7. Peggy Stelly informed the committee about the Barnes & Noble Book Fair supporting the Affiliated Blind of Louisiana Library, May 15 – 21, 2010.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.
9. The next meeting of the President's Awareness Committee for Citizens with Disabilities is scheduled for **Monday, June 14, 2010, 11:30-12:30** in the **Council Briefing Room** on the first floor of Lafayette City Hall.