



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

Monday, July 14, 2008  
Meeting Minutes

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**Board Members Present:** Harold Arceneaux; Jim Richard; Peggy Stelly; Richard Phelps, Deborah Aymond  
**Guests in Attendance:** Dan Arabie; Linda Ducotey; Yenter Tu; Sharae Levine; Monica Thigpen  
**Staff Present:** Mike Mitchell; Dana McPherson; Ben Berthelot; Lou Anna Angelle

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1. Jim Richard called the meeting to order.
2. The June meeting minutes were approved
3. **Correspondence:** None to report
4. Ben Berthelot introduced the new committee member, Deborah Aymond.

### 5. UPDATE ON VOUCHER SYSTEM

Dana McPherson indicated she has received the information from Easter Seals. She provided the group with a brief summary of the information that was received and indicated that she should have her report completed soon.

### 6. ADA COORDINATOR

Ben provided the committee with a chart that indicates the contact information for Lafayette Consolidated Government. Harold Arceneaux voiced his opinion about the issue and wants everyone to know that this is an important matter that needed to be addressed by Lafayette Consolidated Government.

### 7. PARA-TRANSIT PASSENGER FLYER

Dana McPherson will contact the Para-transit Service provider and prepare the flyer to be distributed to the riders. This should be done before the August Disability Awareness Committee Meeting.

### 8. RECREATION EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE

Ben Berthelot gave a report on the Parks and Recreation Exploratory CMTE as requested. Ben said the CMTE is charged with looking at other Parks and Recreation models that operate outside of government control, such as BREC in Baton Rouge. He said removing the department from government control and placing it in the hands of the community would free up money in the City's

general fund. The committee has only been meeting for two months and it will be a while before a recommendation is made. If and when a recommendation is made, it would require a vote of the people.

## **9. FORMATION OF A PUBLICITY COMMITTEE**

There was a brief discussion about the formation of a Publicity Committee.

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Mike Mitchell informed the committee that the Para-Transit Request for Proposals should go out in early August.
- Peggy Stelly shared an incident with Mike Mitchell that happened over the weekend where the reservations made were treated as a group instead of an individual request.
- Deborah Aymond mentioned the 2008 Governor's Disability Community Action and Leadership Awards. This award is presented to an individual, organization, agency or employer whose contributions have advanced the opportunities of individuals with disabilities.
- Deborah Aymond mentioned the Disability Job Fair will be held on October 28, 2008, at the Heymann Center.

11. The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

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