

Mayor's Council on Disability  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Meeting Minutes  
June 02, 2008

Sandra Booher, Chairperson  
Bea Lyons, Vice Chair  
Katie Jones, Secretary  
Jill Hindman, Parliamentarian

Council Members:

Dr. Rick Rader  
Jim Queen  
Mary Ann Schenk  
Tommy Gates  
Gina Turley  
Carolyn Boyd  
Carol Martin  
Phillip Stevens  
Karl Epperson

Meeting called to order by Chairperson, Sandy  
Booher.

In attendance:

Karl Epperson  
Jill Hindman  
Tommy Gates

Excused Absence:

Carolyn Boyd  
Bea Lyons  
Katie Jones

Sandy Booher  
Jim Queen  
Mary Ann Schenk  
Carol Martin  
Rick Rader  
Matt Lea-Mayor's Office

Phillip Stevens

Visitors:  
Julie Michael  
Rod Hennes  
Chrissie Jackson  
John Jackson  
Kim Lee  
April Taylor  
Terri Rice

Chairperson Sandra Booher opened the meeting and welcomed all who were present; visitors introduced themselves to the Council members.

Carol Martin presented an update of the "disABILITIES in the Workplace" seminar to be held Tuesday, July 22, 2008, 8:00 until 11:30am, at the EPB 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, located at 10 W MLKing Blvd. This training opportunity is a free employment seminar for employers. Ms. Martin requested suggestions for panelists with a disability who are currently employed, getting those nominations to her by Wednesday, June 04; she mentioned goody bag items: ASL alphabet key chains from Bea Lyons and Braille cards from Sandy Booher; Jill Hindman will check on STIGMA project buttons. Mary Ann Schenk is sharing the "Simple Truths" video

that will be shown; next planning meeting is set for June 04, at 3:00pm, at the Signal Centers location on Dodds Avenue. Carol has asked for volunteers to be responsible for refreshment table including setup and cleanup and volunteers to be responsible for registration table.

Ms. Booher stated that Go-Fest will be held on Saturday, October 11, 2008, at the Chattanooga Zoo; she asked for volunteers from the Mayor's Council on Disability who would be willing to serve on the planning committee. MCD members include Jim Queen, Tommy Gates, Carol Martin, Jill Hindman, Bea Lyons, Terri Rice and Sandra Booher. The city along with the Mayor's Office has begun planning for this annual Go-Fest celebration.

Jim Queen provided a brief CARTA update. Negotiations are continuing with the city regarding budget; most of the increased funds will go toward fuel costs. There are a larger number of tourist requests for Care-A-Van service during the summer months and increase of 2,000 in number of riders on regular CARTA buses. WiFi access on buses is a big attraction for more riders. The proposed 50cent price increase of Care-A-Van ride becomes effective June 30, 2008. Drivers report no complaints from riders about the price increase since it's been approximately 15 years since the last cost increase was made. All

rider-ship has increased: neighborhood routes, shuttle routes and the MOC Express.

The date for the Mayor's Council members to meet with Mayor Ron Littlefield is Thursday, June 05, 2008, at 1:00pm. The meeting will be held in the Mayor's Executive Conference room located on the Third Floor of City Hall; the room is wheelchair accessible.

Jill Hindman reported that the Legislative session is over; "Fulfill the Promise" legislation did not pass as was expected; however, they will try again next year. Jill, as chairman of Region III Planning Council, is recruiting new members for the Council on Developmental Disabilities. The governor will select these members from resumes submitted to his office.

Matt Lea stated that it is again time to review Council membership and officer appointments. He requested that MCD members be thinking about good people for the Mayor's Council on Disability and new officers to be elected soon.

Dr. Rick Rader expressed thanks and appreciation to Matt Lea for arranging for the mayor to attend and speak at the recent Orange Grove Center graduation ceremony. It was most significant having the mayor present to support the community.

## Announcements:

Congratulations to Elaine Adams, recipient of the Tennessee Champion Community Recreation Award at the MEGA Conference in Nashville.

Disability Awards Luncheon will be held October 16, 2008; speaker will be Marfori, a comedian.

Camp Zoo-Ability at the Chattanooga Zoo: June 15-20 for children with a disability ages 6-12 years and July 28-Aug 01 for children with a disability ages 13 years and older.

Dream Night at the Zoo will be held Friday, June 06, 6:00-8:00pm, a national event sponsored by zoos across the U S.

Adaptive Cycling will be held on June 16, and sponsored by the City Therapeutic Recreation Department.

AIM Center Art Show will be held June 02-30, 2008; today's exhibit will be open from 4:30 until 6:00pm.

Readiness Job Fair will be held August 06, at the Brainerd Crossing.

Siskin Children's Institute "Faces of Disability" event will be held at Hamilton Place Mall, August 02-03, 2008; tax-free weekend located in stage area of mall where Santa Claus and Easter Bunny are usually seated.

Siskin Children's Institute is also sponsoring Educational Roundtable Luncheon on June 04, for people to gather to discuss agency needs and brainstorming new ideas for meeting those needs. Contact Julie Michael for more information: 423/648-1758.

SIB Celebration will be held June 26, in conjunction with the Siskin Children's Institute and Signal Centers, 5:30-8:30pm, at Coolidge Park at the Walker Pavilion; event especially of interest for siblings of individuals with disabilities.

Dr. Rick Rader will be going to Beijing for the paralympics in September 2008.

Chrissie Jackson has offered to respond to citizen inquiries across the web site regarding Department of Mental Retardation Services (DMRS) protocols since there have been numerous questions and concerns; contact Ms. Jackson at 423/634-6149, ext. 154.

Final item on the agenda was the official approval of the May 05, 2008, MCD meeting minutes; minutes were approved as prepared.

Next meeting of the Mayor's Council on Disability will be held Monday, July 07, 2008, 3:00-4:30pm, at the DRC located at 1250 Market Street.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Katye Jones,  
Secretary.