

# **Mayor's Council on Disability**

**April 2, 2007 MINUTES**

**Meeting called to order by Chairperson,  
Sandra Booher**

**Those in attendance:**

**Mary Ann Schenk, the ARC**

**Jim Queen, Mgr. of Carta Caravan**

**Bea Lyons, Chattanooga State**

**Sandy Booher, Moccasin Bend**

**Katye Jones, Certified Special Needs**

**Consultant at Merrill Lynch**

**Dr. Rick Rader, Physician Director of**

**Habilitation**

**Center at Orange Grove**

**Amanda Stofan, Compliance Officer City of  
Chattanooga**

**Matt Lee, Government Community Relations**

**Karl Epperson**

**Jill Hindman, Disability Consultant**

**Jennifer Nichols, Signal Centers**

**Council member Jennifer Nichols will be  
leaving to go to school at Florida State in**

**August to do graduate work in social work.  
We all wished her well.**

**Dr. Rader introduced Martha Suma from UTC from the Neuromusic Gateway Therapy Program. Martha serves as Executive Director of this nonprofit organization. “Magic” was founded in 2003 and the basic idea of the founding of Magic was to combine Neurological Music Therapy which is a new form of music therapy and the automation of that music therapy into software technology. Neurologic music therapy was founded at Colorado State University. They have been doing intense research on it for about 20 years now. This is a complete breakout from the social paradigm that we consider normal music therapy based on more social type things. Neurologic music therapy activates directly the neural networks, and neurological music therapy is used for sensory motor, speech-language and cognition training. At this point, they have automated several of the cognition techniques into software. Orange Grove is helping to beta test the software. These techniques are**

**basically used to help sustain and support attention span, autism, and other attention problems. There are several applications for this technique, and Orange Grove, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and Signal Centers of Chattanooga will sponsor an event to showcase the aesthetic and the scientific elements of music. This collaboration is being co-sponsored by Dr. Rick Rader through Orange Grove. The concert event is scheduled for September 22, 2007. It will be held at the Roland Hayes auditorium at UTC.**

**The minutes were read and approved.**

**Bea Lyons presented the information from the Nominating Committee which met March 26<sup>th</sup> and names will be presented to the Mayor upon his request. Committee members are Jill Hindman, Katye Jones, Sandy Booher (Ex Officio member) and Bea Lyons, Chair.**

**Go!Fest**

**Some of the area theaters in the community have expressed an interest in doing plays that**

**focus on disabilities. Possible plays are “Afraid to Look Down” and “The Boys Next Door.” The committee will keep this in mind for their planning.**

### **Disability Days on the Hill**

**Several of the committee members went. Mary Ann Schenk reported that the ARC is supporting the bill about the administration of mediation, addressing the child restraint law and trying to some legislation that would prohibit folks from aversive restraints. Jill Hindman reported that the Capital building in Nashville, does not have wheelchair accessible rest rooms. Most of the legislators with whom she spoke regarding this issue appeared to be disinterested; however, Gerald McCormick from Chattanooga was very empathetic.**

**There will be a disability day on April 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 to 3:00 at Chattanooga State.**

### **Bylaws**

**The Bylaws were discussed in detail, voted on and accepted.**

## **Resource Directory**

**The Office of Multicultural Affairs is working on putting together a resource guide.**

**Jacqueline Strong Moss mentioned in last month's meeting that the Council comes up with a "seal of approval" for certain facilities that are recognized for their accessibility. A motion was made and seconded.**

**Meeting was adjourned**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by  
Katie Jones, Secretary**