



Columbus Advisory Committee on Disability Issues

Minutes of the Meeting - April 24, 2014

Members Present: Mary Hiland, Karen Kostelac, Wayne Cocchi, Dave Cameron, Jennifer Flynn, Patricia Kovacs, Tiffany McClain, Kay Grier, Marlene Stewart, Elizabeth Sammons

Members Absent: Cynthia Macintosh*, Enjie Hall*, Sue Willis*, Kathy Blair, Rae Nutter, Brent Simonds, Ann Christopher, Scott Lissner (* denotes Excused)

Provisional Members: Rajai Saleh, Ann Gazelle, Katie Frederick

Staff: Rick Isbell

Ex-officio: Carrie Fortman (City of Columbus), James O'Neil (COTA), Bill Stepp (COTA) Justin Henderson (COTA)

Guests: Edward Gibson (HOME Choice), Geri Cooper (MOBILE), April Williams (COTA), Jay Favuzzi (CSCC),

Mary Hiland called the meeting to order at 1:00.

Member introductions.

March Minutes. Moved by Kay, seconded by Dave. Approved.

Guest Speaker. Edward Gibson, HOME Choice Education and Outreach Manager.

Ed handed out a brochure to all and provided us a very detailed explanation using a powerpoint presentation, on the many aspects and components of the HOME Choice program. All information can be found on the powerpoint slides provided. (Note: The powerpoint was provided to members in an e-mail from Wayne on April 25.) The HOME Choice program was established in 2008 and has since served over 4700 people as well as becoming a national leader. Ed also showed a video of a few Ohioans who have made use of HOME Choice and their experience with the program. The video is available at the HOME Choice web site (<http://medicaid.ohio.gov/FOROHIOANS/Programs/HomeChoice.aspx>).

Elizabeth asked Ed about people who have had support from family/friends and then lose that care, do they need to then go to a nursing home for 90 days. The answer is yes, the program is only for the transition from institutional care. Ed also mentioned a program called My Care Ohio that lets people pick their primary point physician and helps them manage their Medicaid supports.

Old Business.

Future meetings topics -

May - (Action Item) Enjie will contact a speaker on Technology and Accessibility.

June - Karen has contacted State Representative Cheryl Grossman. Rick Isbell will also present on the ADA Symposium he will be attending June 16-18.

July - (Action Item) Tricia will secure a speaker on mental health.

August - (Action Item) David still working on securing a speaker on access for people with disabilities at shopping malls (Easton).

Suggestions for other topics/speakers:

September - (Action Item) Elizabeth will research Columbus International Airport services for people with disabilities and invite a speaker.

Reverse 911 - no further discussion on this.

New Business. Discussion on the Certified Tourism Ambassador (CTA) program for the City of Columbus. Info can be found at <http://www.joinuscolumbus.com/cta/>. Jennifer Flynn is a CTA and Marlene will be taking the class in May. The class is held once a month. Once certified a CTA needs 50 points/year to renew certification. You earn points by attending various events around the city throughout the year.

Disability Day. We began discussion on this topic at our March meeting with Council Member Eileen Paley. She offered her support. Mary appointed a subcommittee to begin further discussion and review this topic. The subcommittee includes: Wayne Cocchi, Sue Willis, Kay Grier, Jennifer Flynn, Katie Kendricks and Marlene Stewart. (Action item) This committee will set a future meeting to talk in more detail about the feasibility of such a program and any planning that will need to take place. The committee will make a recommendation to the CACDI once they have had time to discuss options/needs/plans as to whether CACDI will sponsor such an event. It was agreed that this event should not be held until 2015 in conjunction with the 25 anniversary of the ADA.

COTA. Jim O'Neil mentioned the new COTA CBUS circulator route path through downtown between the Short North and the Brewery district. The bus will announce it is the CBUS as well as stops.

Announcements. The OSU Student Center for Disability empowerment has organized a Disability Parade. (Action item) Jennifer will report back to CACDI about this event.

Tiffany reporting for Dave (who had to leave the meeting)... Make sure there is a discussion around the emergency management meeting in May. Functional Needs Summit. Katie has an e-mail about it to share. Dave is suggesting one of us be at the meeting. This is different than the DOJ meeting Scott is helping with. (Note: Wayne forwarded an e-mail from Kay Grier with the Functional Needs Summit info, to members on April 25th.)

Jennifer mentioned that Brent is doing good. He is starting a program with Kobacker House for a grief support group for people who have lost a care giver. (Check for information on this in Elizabeth's Ability Front e-mail). (Note: Wayne sent an e-mail to members on April 25th about this program.)

Paul Walker is doing fine after his surgery for the clinical study he is in.

Anne mentioned that she was at the airport in early April. She found it very easy to get through security, to the plane, etc. Things are improving there. She also mentioned she has a weather radio for anyone who might want one. Carrie said she would take it.

Rajai has her business cards with contact information for the HOME Choice program.

Carrie reminded all about submitting service requests for new or damaged curb ramps as well as requests for new sidewalks. The ramp program was for \$1 million again this year. Call 311. New Freedom Program is also providing funding to COTA and they are partnering with the city to provide sidewalks to connect bus stops without sidewalks. You can now submit a picture through the 311 site as well.

Next Meeting. May 22, 2014 at the Columbus Museum of Art

Minutes Submitted by: Wayne Cocchi, Secretary