

Mayor's Council on Disability Issues Meeting Minutes July 11, 2018

1. Meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.
2. Roll Call –
Present: Allan, Austin, Brewer, Brookshire, Cook, Callen, Davidson, Huang, Jones, Petty, Plyler,
Secrest, Shilling, Shipley, Upton, VanDyke
Absent: Houston, Loebner, Newman, Sawhney, Neely, Orr
Public Forum Guests: Mark Jones (Knox County HR Director and Risk Manager)
3. Approval of June Minutes – Upton moved to approve, Brewer seconded, motion passed.
4. Disability Friendly Survey: Survey Update and Call to Action – Sawhney gave Misha Byrne access to the Survey to update it and she put in the gift card verbiage. Surveys are to be submitted by September 4, 2018 with gift cards awarded by September 10, 2018. Van Dyke reported that Lauren Witzler of Knox County Schools is attempting to obtain approval to send the Survey information out to students in Knox County Schools. She also reported that the survey is part of the contract for UPEP students at Pellissippi State Community College. Byrne handed out information cards with access information to the Survey for members to distribute to interested parties and bulletins to put on bulletin boards. She reported that she could also provide additional copies. Brewer requested an electronic copy of the bulletin so that members can easily make additional copies. Byrne will send it out and offered to enter the information from any surveys in hardcopy format submitted to her. Davidson will get flyers to all of the recreation, community and senior centers via Parks and Rec Department, plus the high rises.

Transportation Committee Report -The Transportation Committee has not met since the chair has rotated off CODI. A new chair will be discussed at the September retreat meeting. Cook reported that the Mayor will be attending the retreat in September. It will be at the Public Works Building at 3131 Morris Avenue, from about 8:30 until 2:00.

5. CTV Updates and Presentation – Byrne presented the first update on the new CTV presentations which include such topics as The History of Disability, Service Animals, and Disability: Did You Know? The segments will be approximately 56 minutes. Callen asked if there was an accessible version since it is a silent presentation and not accessible to those that have low vision or are blind. Byrne will look into seeing if Voice Over is compatible with the software she used to

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develop the presentation. Byrne asked if members would commit to being interviewed on air. The segments would be topic based and Byrne asked that interview volunteers email her a topic they would like to discuss. Brewer and Upton led the way volunteering for segments. Other members followed including our esteemed chair. Byrne plans to also advocate for both an early morning and evening CTV time slot that is more likely to attract viewers.

6. Facebook Update – Davidson reported that CODI has been approved for a CODI social media presence. Davidson and Byrne will serve as the Administrators. They created a document which members received at the meeting outlining how members can participate. The new members will have their pictures posted into Facebook with their biographies. Davidson asked that members go to the CODI website to review and update their biographies for future use on Facebook. Davidson asked that members go to the page and “Like” it. The goal is to report twice a week so it was asked that the membership go on the page, “Like” and comment on the post. Many additional strategies were identified to increase exposure to posts and the page. It was also requested that members use the hashtag #knoxvillecodi and #disabilityfriendlycity when sharing CODI info on their personal pages. If members have information to post, Davidson instructed them to send the information to her and Byrne.
7. Executive Committee Meeting with Mayor Update – Chair Allan updated the membership on the meeting with the Mayor. He felt that it was a “breath of fresh air” speaking with the Mayor. She was very positive and it was a great meeting. Cook agreed and said the Mayor followed up with her about attending the retreat. The Mayor also mentioned CODI in her weekly newsletter.
8. Knox County Library and Service Animals Update – Mark Jones (Knox County HR Director and Risk Manager) updated CODI on the situation with the denial of a person with a disability entry to a Knox County Library with her service animal. After discussions with Director Marie Black and Assistant Director Nelda Hill, the security staff has had training to discuss the incident, what the law says, and how to appropriately respond in this sort of situation. Secret asked if the library system has customer service training for new employees. Mr. Jones reported that he will check on that. He believes that the written policy is now appropriate. Upton asked if there is training with outside security (contract) companies. Mr. Jones stated that only the Health Department has outside security.
9. New Member Orientation – (1:30 p.m. Room 511) All members introduced themselves. Cook reported that the Orientation will be at 1:30 on August 8, 2018

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unless there is a time conflict for the new members. All new members are to let Cook know of their availability.

10. New Business –

- a. Secret reported that we need to review the bylaws as relates to transportation. Chair Allan suggested this was a good retreat topic.
- b. Huang confirmed that the Disability Friendly City Survey is going to be sent to all of AARP's E. TN listserv (approximately 14,000!!) at the first part of August.
- c. Cook suggested that members should sign up for the Neighborhood Newsletter. It has excellent information. She will email the membership the current one.
- d. Chair Allan reported that the September 14 retreat will be our meeting for September.

11. Announcements and Public Forum:

- a. Upton suggested that we submit an article about the survey to the Office of Neighborhoods Newsletter.
- b. Callen offered to work with homeless individuals to complete the Disability Friendly Survey.
- c. Secret shared that CAC Leadership is accepting applications for the next class and encouraged everyone to apply or propose an applicant if possible.
- d. Brookshire reported that the "Take Home the Cellar" event to benefit Breakthrough will be held on July 19th. All are invited.

12. Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Melissa VanDyke, Secretary