

Commission for People with Disabilities (COPD)
August 18, 2009
Room 14 Governmental Center/Potomac Building
Minutes

Attendees:

Julie Randall
Sam Brown
Vicki Brown
Sheral St. Clair
Christina Bishop
Paula Andreas
Susan Erichsen
Cathy Zumbrun
Jolanda Campbell
Pam Main
Bill Nicholas
Jaime Jones (Staff Support)

Excused:

Dennis Phillips
Marie Robinson
Rocco Aiello
Tomica Scriber

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm by J. Randall. The meeting minutes were presented and approved.

Bylaws – The revised bylaws were presented and approved by commission members. J. Jones will take the final draft to the Legal Department and the Board of County Commissioners for final approval.

Customized Employment Training Grant Award – J. Jones had previously reported that three of the five providers in St. Mary's County (UCP, Abilities Network, & TCLE) came together to submit a joint grant application for the Customized Training and Technical Assistance Request For Proposals (RFP). We recently were informed that St. Mary's County was awarded one of the grants. The three agencies will meet in September to start the planning process.

ADA Coordinator – C. Bishop informed the St. Mary's County Director of Information Technology and the Webmaster about a Web Accessibility Conference scheduled for September 22, 2009. In addition, C. Bishop announced that the Mid-Atlantic ADA Update will be held at the BWI Marriott on October 9, 2009. There will also be a Pre-conference session on October 8, 2009. Additional information can be found at <http://www.adainfo.org/>

20th ADA Anniversary Events Planning – C. Bishop and P. Andreas handed out a tentative list of monthly activities for the upcoming year to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the ADA. C. Bishop will add a "Person Responsible" column to the draft, which will require a member to choose a month or activity to oversee. If the commission agreed to use funding for these activities then it would mean canceling one, possibly two years of Disability Awareness Day. This topic will be discussed again at the September meeting.

St. Mary's County Draft Comprehensive Plan Human Services Chapter – J. Randall reported that the Human Services Council created the first Human Services chapter for the St. Mary's County Comprehensive Plan. The plan is in draft form and still needs to go before the planning commission and the Board of County Commissioners. J. Randall asked commission members to review the draft plan and give her any additional recommendations.

Needs Assessment Update – Previously, the commission members went through the report and came up with several recommendations, which were to be forwarded to the consultant for follow-up and completion. However, due to limited funding the Department of Human Services had to request the final report, which doesn't include the additional recommendations from the commission members. The Department of Human Services has agreed to continue the work and complete the final needs assessment. J. Jones handed out the previous recommendations and asked the group to review and finalize the recommendation list.

2009 Awards Update – We have received several nominations thus far and have decided to extend the due date to October 1st. The Awards Committee will meet after the 1st to make selections and finalize the awards. The

commission is planning on presenting the awards at the Board of County Commissioners meeting on October 27, 2009. S. St. Clair mentioned that it would be nice to have an awards category for volunteers or employees.

Other – S. St. Clair handed out information about a 5K Run/Walk, which benefits the Vivian Ripple Adult Day Services Center. The race will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2009. For more information please call 301-475-8102.

Next meeting date – September 15, 2009 at 4:30 pm.