

**Metro Area Mayors Committee
For People with Disabilities (MAMC)
Meeting Minutes
Location: Kroll's Diner, Fargo
May 14, 2009**

Present: Laura Eberhardt, Marisa Bengston-Loerzel, Kathy Circle, Mark Melhoff, Jen Erickson, Tom Thompson, Nate Aalgaard, Mikel Kunza, Brenda Majerus, Kati Langlie, Jean Thompson, Terry Romine, Vicky Bogart, Steve Pederson, Paula Aalgaard, Keith Bjornson

Co-chairs presiding: Jeff Anderson & Laura Eberhardt

Agenda: Motion to approve – Brenda Majerus
2nd- Jen Erickson

Treasurer's Report – Kati Langlie

Checking: \$6440.63
GT grant: \$3518.64
Savings: \$1223.72
Total: \$11,183.07

- Includes receipts from raffle, banquet, City of Fargo (\$1300); minus \$59.38 to Hornbacher's, \$42 to Post Master, \$13.27 to Office Max. Ramada has not been paid yet.
- Raffle Revenue: \$2125 (sold 425 tickets!)
- Banquet Revenue: \$1874 so far, final amount not available

Program Reports & Relevant Issues:

Marisa Bengston-Loerzel from Connections, presented a community awareness project that she is organizing. The project, "Safe Sidewalks", will attempt to raise public awareness regarding sidewalk obstructions. Marisa can be contacted for more information at MBLoerzel@yahoo.com, or by calling @ 371-0796.

Mike Kunza from Metro COG, announced that the Metro Mobility Study will address issues related to the areas Specialized Transportation network. The study will develop a baseline of needs, obtained through public input via an on-line survey. The survey, which can be accessed at www.fmmetroco.org/metromobility, is crucial in order to provide information necessary to analyze and develop alternative transportation options essential to improve services delivery to individuals requiring specialized transportation.

Subcommittees:

Nomination Committee: Tom Thompson and Jean Thompson
Election of officers will take place at next month's meeting.

Awards Banquet:

The Awards Banquet and raffle were both a great success. The raffle generated \$2125, and the banquet grossed \$1874- with some receipts pending. It is anticipated that the banquet made money for the committee this year. Discussion on improvements/changes

to both the raffle and the banquet were discussed. Most noteworthy, was discussion to start the banquet earlier next year, make arrangements for simple nametags, and to eliminate flowers for presenters and award recipients. Ideas for the raffle were to include more prizes, and to start the sales drive sooner.

Additionally, Tom will submit a press release in the Fargo Forum listing the various Award recipients.

C.O.P.P.

No updates at this time.

Chic's Clues:

A distribution plan for the resource guide was discussed. Jeff Anderson, CLS, offered to distribute the guide to all entities detailed in the guide. Progress will be discussed next month.

Meeting Location:

Due to the closure of Kroll's, several new meeting places were discussed. It was decided that the June meeting would be held at the Lone Star restaurant, and Laura Eberhardt will make arrangements. A permanent meeting location will be decided by group consensus at the June meeting. Jen will call Applebees on 45th Street to check on availability for another meeting option.

Disability Awareness Month:

A reminder to all that October is Disability Awareness month, and members are encouraged to come to next month's meeting with some brainstorming ideas to raise public awareness.

Announcements:

Tom Thompson announced the formation of the "Miracle League", an effort to build a baseball/softball field (the "Miracle Field") with a full rubberized field (to facilitate usage by those in wheelchairs) will break ground in June. The "Miracle League", which is sponsored by the FM Rotary, FM Redhawks, and the City of Moorhead, will have a press conference 5/15/09 at 2:30 pm at the Hjemkomst Center to announce the project. The Redhawks will accept donations for the project at guest services counter at Newman Outdoor Field.

The June meeting presentation will be Rikki Trageton from Freedom, who will provide information on the July ADA celebration.

Next meeting is at Noon on Thursday, June 11 2009, at Lone Star on 13th Ave in Fargo.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Anderson