

**Metro Area Mayor's Committee
For People with Disabilities (MAMC)
Location: Fryn' Pan, Main Avenue, Fargo
June 8, 2006**

Present: Jeannie Krull, Vicky Bogart, Carol Metcalf, JoAnn Nygard, Paulette Ness, Paula Aalgaard, Kelly Boeddeker, Robert Anderson, Mark Breitbach, Chuck Stebbons, Stephanie Sheets, Dan Mahli, Tammy Stuart, Tom Thompson, Judy Siegle, Jen Erickson.

Co-chairs residing: Dan Mahli and Tammy Stuart

Introductions were made and a motion to approve the May meeting minutes was initiated by Robert A., Chuck S. 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Mark Breitbach

Checking: \$6,586.31

GT Grant: \$3,885.00

Savings: \$1,206.26

Total: \$11,677.57

Deposits: \$903.00 (parking fees for first quarter)

MAMC receives _ of the \$100.00 parking fee acquired through fines for relevant parking violations.

Grace Tveiten Grant Update: The committee received a new application today to be reviewed by an established committee. A second individual from the Employment Training Center (ETC) re-submitted an application, providing updated information to request funds for specialized work clothes.

Awards Luncheon/AT Expo update:

Treasurer's summary - Mark

- Sponsor donations = \$1,650.00
- 110 meals paid by AT Expo = \$1,100
- Receipts from luncheon = \$2,130
- Total income = \$4,880.00
- Profit = \$1,868.62

Jeannie Krull reported that April 5th has been selected for the 2007 Assistive Technology Expo. to be held for the 2nd time at the Ramada Plaza Suites.

There was a motion by Tom T. to schedule the MAMC Awards Banquet on the same day as the AT Expo again in 2007. Pairing these two events together proved to be highly effective in 2006. Mark B. provided the 2nd for this motion. Motion carried.

Program Reports:

Paula Aalgaard from Rehab Services Inc. provided information pertaining to benefits planning and outreach in North Dakota. Multiple services are provided including, but not limited to, residential options and employment. Individuals seeking services are not charged a fee as it is a grant funded entity.

Rehab. Services Inc. provides information on various work incentives and offers answers to questions surrounding social security issues pertaining to persons with disabilities. It

serves as a provider resource, offering consultation services to organizations serving persons with disabilities as well.

Paula made reference to Impairment-Related Work Expenses (IRWE), Plans for Achieving Self-Support (PASS), the Medicaid Buy-In program, and other relevant programming. She's able to access information from social security pertaining to specific individuals to determine the status of their trial work period by obtaining a specific form, as noted. Paula brought a number of useful handouts for members' future reference.

Transit Appeal Committee

Tom T. reminded the committee that the MAMC reviews appeals from individuals on the Fargo side who challenge decisions that deny MAT Paratransit eligibility. Recently, Lori Vanbeek, Moorhead Transit Manager, asked if the MAMC would review appeals and issue a decision for Moorhead residents as well. Formerly, this function was given to the Moorhead Human Rights organization who has reportedly decided not to review these appeals in the future.

It was noted that these appeals are typically infrequent and may result from a determination that the individual does not have functional limitations that warrant this service or service has been suspended due to chronic "no shows".

A representative from the National MS Society agreed to join this committee (Kelly Boeddeker, currently) as did Dan Mahli.

Election of Officers

Nominees

Robert Anderson (Co-Chair/Vice-Chair)

Tammy Stuart (Co-Chair)

Dan Mahli (Co-Chair)

Mark Breitbach (Treasurer)

Jen Erickson (Secretary)

Through continued dialogue, the committee decided to create an officer position of Vice Chair to contribute to the functions of the executive committee. Robert Anderson expressed a willingness to support a change in nomination from Co-Chair to Vice Chair.

Chuck S. made a motion to support the nominations and Judy S. provided a 2nd to this motion. The motion carried and the executive committee will continue with each officer retaining their current role with the addition of Robert Anderson as Vice Chair.

C.O.P.P.'s Program

Tom T. stated that the committee is waiting to hear back from Fargo Police Chief Ternes about how to proceed with serving tickets for businesses who have parking violations. Reportedly, a decision has not been made on which entity will serve the tickets for these violations.

There was dialogue about the upcoming elections for the Mayor of Fargo (and city commissioners), and it was agreed that it would be worthwhile for a sub-group of the Mayor's committee to schedule a meeting with the new mayor after elections to share information and to seek recommendations about how to proceed with the parking issue and to keep the momentum going on this project.

Transitional Job Program

Tom T. reported on this training/seminar that has target dates of July 17/18. He provided a brief summary, noting that this seminar is intended to provide information about a transitional employment program for various disadvantaged populations to include individuals with psychiatric diagnoses/disorders and/or those who have a criminal record. Agencies/organizations will be receiving invitations to this seminar. It will take place on the 17th from 1 to 5 pm, and the 18th from 8 am to Noon. Tom asked the committee to consider allocating funds to support/sponsor this endeavor. Two individuals from the Chicago area will provide the training. It was agreed that the MAMC would allocate up to \$400.00 to support this training, and any requests for additional funds above and beyond this amount (if deemed necessary) would be reviewed by the executive committee for approval/denial.

Paulette N. made a motion to support the allocation of up to \$400.00 (additional funds being reviewed by the executive committee to issue a decision). Jeannie K. provided the second for this motion. Motion carried.

Additional items

Mark announced that the North Dakota Association for the Disabled (NDAD) is seeking funds for a child needing substantial medical care. After dialogue, Tom T. made a final motion to donate \$100.00 to the NDAD to allocate at their discretion. Robert A. provided the second to this motion. Motion carried.

Tammy reported receiving an invitation for the committee to purchase a one-time advertisement in the Fargo Forum to coincide with the Grand Opening of the Arc for \$38.70. Robert A. made a motion for the MAMC to purchase this ad, and Chuck S. provided the second. Motion carried.

There was some dialogue about the MAMC hosting a booth at the Red River Valley Fair this summer. It was noted that the booth would need to be staffed for a significant amount of time.

Announcements

- Stephanie S. announced the 50th Anniversary of the Arc of Cass County. A celebration will take place on Tuesday, July 18th at the Arc Attic Treasures. Stephanie distributed flyers to the group with additional details.

Free lunch drawing – Tammy Stuart

Respectfully Submitted,
Jen Erickson