

**Metro Area Mayors Committee
For People with Disabilities (MAMC)
Location: Fryn' Pan, Main Avenue, Fargo
June 12, 2008**

Present: Kati Langlie, Amanda Noce, Laura Eberhardt, Ronda Wilson, Mary C. Tintes, Lisa Schornak, Joyce (Joey), Morken, MaryBeth Collier, Jeff Anderson, Elaine Kastrinos, Phyllis Reller, Paulette Ness, Ron Sandness, Maria Vazquez, Brenda Majerus, Tammy Stuart, Keith Bjornson, Dan Mahli, Steve Pederson, Tom Thompson, Jen Erickson.

Co-chairs presiding: Dan Mahli & Tammy Stuart

The meeting minutes for the May 2008 meeting were approved by consensus.

Added to today's agenda: Maria V. announced that the North Dakota Association of the Blind (NDAB) was to be hosting their state convention at the Prairie Rose Inn & Conference Center (formerly Expressway Inn) over the weekend (June 13th through the 15th). Vendors would be set up from 1:30 to 5:00 pm on Friday and 8:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturday.

Treasurer's Report – Paulette Ness

Checking: \$3,148.40

GT grant: \$4,140.22

Savings: \$1, 218.37

Total: \$8,506.99

Deposits: 0.00

There are no Grace Tveiten applications pending. Work boots were purchased for an individual who applied for funds last month.

Program Reports & Relevant Issues:

Elaine K. and Dan M. provided information about a pamphlet that was initiated by Elaine's daughter, Chick. It's called "Chick's Clues" and was created as a resource guide for those who become impacted by disability and are in need of information about what types of services etc. are available and how to locate them. It was Chick's intent to help others avoid the challenges she encountered when facing disability so they may access useful resources when the need presents itself. The guide includes valuable information about medical services and supplies, extended care facilities for rehabilitation, transportation, legal services and other important resources.

MAMC members offered suggestions for additional resource listings to consider for the pamphlet such as First Link, Disability Linkage Line, National Federation for the Blind, Protection & Advocacy, and ND-211 (24 hour one-stop shop for information/referral). Dan M. offered to act as the clearinghouse for suggestions

about what could be added to the pamphlet, and will collect information and work with Elaine to make decisions about which information will be added to the existing pamphlet.

When asked about the prospect of the Mayors' committee supporting this referral guide effort, members communicated support and Tammy S. formally proposed that the MAMC offer support to this effort. This support may include funding to cover the cost of printing for a specified number of brochures to be distributed to relevant organizations.

Elections:

Ron S., Mary T., and Rikki T., served on the elections committee to identify potential nominees for officers for the upcoming year.

Laura Eberhardt was nominated to be a co-chair and a motion was made by the elections committee to move forward with this nomination. Jeannie provided the 2nd. Motion passed.

Jeff Anderson was nominated to be a co-chair. Steve P. made the motion. Lisa S. provided the 2nd. Motion passed.

Amanda Noce was nominated to be the secretary. Dan M. made the motion. Maria V. provided the second. Motion passed.

Kati Langlie was nominated to be the treasurer. Maria V. made the motion. Brenda M. provided the 2nd. Motion passed.

By-Laws:

Jen E. shared a revised draft of the MAMC by-laws, which was revised by the by-laws subcommittee (Jen E., Mary T., and Laura E.). There was discussion about the prospect of staggering the co-chair officer roles to ensure that there would be one experienced co-chair, while the second co-chair might be new to her/his role. While the committee recognized the value of aiming for this model, it was determined that this could be an informal goal rather than a formal modification to the by-laws. Jen stated plans to modify the sequencing of the Roman numerals and will add a grammatical change to the definition of disability as written in the ADA.

Tom T. made a motion to approve the amended by-laws. Tammy S. provided the 2nd. Motion passed.

C.O.P.P.

Tom T. noted that as of June 7th businesses who received notifications about accessible parking noncompliance will be required to pay a penalty of \$500.00 (for the infraction) after having had 60 days to come into compliance. So far, 6 businesses will be issued the penalty, but it's possible there will be more than

that as this process of checking lots is still in progress. Tom stated more volunteers will be needed to check parking lots.

There was dialogue about actively engaging other cities in the metro area in the committee's work on accessible parking and the overall purpose of the MAMC committee. Phyllis R., Laura E., Ron S., and Paulette N. expressed an interest in pursuing this matter further and exploring ways to partner with the City of Moorhead.

ADA Celebration:

Tom T. informed members about the upcoming ADA picnic/walk scheduled at Lindenwood Park on July 24th from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. The picnic is free and there will be a ribbon cutting at this event. There are also plans to host a walk during the event to commemorate the ADA for interested attendees (walk, wheel, or navigate your way for the ADA). Jen E. distributed flyers for members to share freely with others. This picnic is open to the public.

There was dialogue about the MAMC being a sponsor of the picnic and it was agreed it would be a sponsor. Jeff A. made a motion to allocate \$250.00 towards the picnic. Laura E. provided the second. Motion passed.

Announcements:

- Partners in Policy will be offered in Fargo this fall. For more information about how to attend/register, please call Joyce at 888 258-7949 or 701 258-7949. Kati Langlie is also available to those who have questions about the training/program. Her email is arcadvocate@yahoo.com
- Tammy S. announced there is a production of the *Wizard of Oz* taking place on Sunday, June 15th at St. Joseph at 3:00 pm, featuring children with disabilities playing the roles in this production.
- Jeff A. reminded the group that October is Disability Awareness Month and encouraged the MAMC to consider sponsoring an activity/event in recognition of this month. Bring ideas to the August meeting.

Next meeting is at Noon on Thursday, August 14th, at the Fryn' Pan on Main Avenue.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Erickson

