

**Metro Area Mayors Committee
For People with Disabilities (MAMC)
Location: Fryn' Pan, Main Avenue, Fargo
August 9, 2007**

Present: Tom Thompson, Ron Sandness, Paulette Ness, Robert Anderson, Joey Morken, Jody Hudson, Kathy Circle, Brenda Majerus, Vicky Bogart, Mark Breitbach, Jeannie Krull, Laura Eberhardt, Kati Langlie, Jen Erickson.

Past Chair Presiding: Tom Thompson

Robert A. made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 2007. Jeannie K. provided a second. Motion passed.

Mark B. made a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting. Paulette N. provided the second. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Paulette Ness

Checking: \$3,703.01

GT Grant: \$3,427.83

Savings: \$1,213.80

Total: \$8,344.64

Deposits: \$650.00

No pending Grace Tveiten grants. Committee members were informed/reminded that individuals with disabilities who live, work, or go to school in the city of Fargo are eligible to apply for this grant.

Program Reports:

Jody Hudson from CCRI presented to the group about the upcoming presentation/concert by Chris Burke who's often recognized for his previous acting role in the former hit television series "Life Goes On". He will perform on Friday September 7th at the Fargo Theater at 7:30 pm, and will lead the annual disability awareness walk on September 8th at 9 am, beginning at Davy Park in Moorhead. Tickets for the Friday night event can be purchased at the Fargo Theater and the price is \$30.00. Individuals planning to participate in the walk would pay \$15.00 and families would pay \$25.00. Sponsor sheets are also available for those who raise additional funds for the walk.

These events will be marketed at Business After Hours, and Kerstin Kealy is the MC for the Fargo Theater event. The Fargo Theater can seat up to 850 people.

The MAMC expressed an interest in being a sponsor for these events; remaining funds go toward programming/services/resources to serve consumers with disabilities. Vicky B. made a motion for the MAMC to allocate \$250.00 for sponsorship. Ron S. provided the second. Motion passed.

MAMC booth update:

Vicky provided information/quotes about possible booth options to be utilized when marketing the MAMC to replace the old display and routed visuals for members to view. Tom T. indicated that Rehabilitation Consulting & Services has an old display that's not being utilized that could be donated to the MAMC. Graphics and handouts can be created and attached to the panels of this display. Vicky B. expressed a willingness to contribute to continuing planning efforts, which can be coordinated with the Public Relations committee as well.

C.O.P.P.'s Program:

There continues to be progress with parking compliance efforts. Members met with the Attorney for the City of Fargo and the Inspector's Office and learned that the city went back 5 years to gather a list of businesses to see who was and was not in compliance. Letters are being developed to send notifications to those businesses that are not in compliance and they have 60 days (until November 1st) to comply before consequences may be issued (citation). The prospect of deputizing volunteers to write tickets for those who park illegally in accessible parking spots was introduced as an option for future consideration.

Subcommittees:

Members were asked to review sign-up sheets and choose subcommittees in which to participate. Tom T. kept sign-up sheets to bring to the next meeting for further sign up.

Announcements:

- The committee expressed an interest in continuing to meet at the Fryn' Pan on Main Avenue this year.
- Kathy Circle announced that she's working with others to begin a housing project whereby houses would be purchased and renovated for individuals needing more accessible housing. Housing units would be rented to those in need.
- Robert A. indicated he was recently appointed to the Cass County Housing Authority.
- Jen E. and Jeannie K. informed members about the "Closing the Gap" assistive technology conference coming up on October 18th, 19th, and 20th in Bloomington, MN. Preconference institutes precede the conference and exhibits halls are available to the public for one day. See www.closingthegap.com for more information.
- Tom T. agreed to retrieve MAMC mail from the P.O. Box at the post office.

Free lunch drawing – Mark Bretibach

Respectfully,

Jen Erickson