

Meeting Minutes
Metro Area Mayors Committee
For People with Disabilities (MAMC)
Location: Fryn' Pan, Main Avenue, Fargo
August 14, 2008

Present: Jeff Anderson, Laura Eberhardt, Jen Erickson, Steve Pederson, Kathy Circle, Terry Romine, Tom Thompson, Tammy DeSautel, Jeannie Krull, Kati Langlie, Joey (Joyce) Morken, Mary Tintes, Phyllis Reller

Co-chairs presiding: Jeff Anderson & Laura Eberhardt

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

Treasurer's Report – Kati Langlie

Checking: \$624.26
GT grant: \$4142.83
Savings: \$1218.37
Total: \$5985.46
Deposits: \$35.00

There are no Grace Tveiten applications pending.

Program Reports & Relevant Issues:

Awards Banquet Planning: Steve Pederson volunteered to be Tom Thompson's apprentice. Brenda, Tammy, Jeannie and Laura will all be helping with the planning as well. The sub-committee will meet in October to go over the nomination forms and make adjustments as needed. Freedom's task force will be looking over and will recommend businesses nominated for Universal Access.

C.O.P.P.

Tom T. noted that volunteers re-checked businesses after sending out non-compliance letters and 8 out of 40 businesses did nothing to comply to the request from the letter. He is unsure how long it will take for the summons to go out to the non-compliant businesses as the attorney's office is "stalling" stating that that this situation is not a priority. Tom stated more volunteers will be needed to check parking lots in September, which will mark 60-days the businesses had to comply. There was discussion about concern that this issue, as stated by the city, is "not a priority." How will businesses take this seriously if the city won't stand by the cause?

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. They need to meet with Tom Thompson to get more details on how to proceed.

Goals for MAMC: Laura and Jeff discussed goals for MAMC including increasing membership and increasing awareness about the committee and what it represents. Ideas to meet goals discussed: put a story in the Forum(Jen will check), send out personal invites to previous members/new potential members (Phyllis R will hand some to the Moorhead side), Have an event for disability awareness month, list goals on website. Discussion about what to do for **October being Disability Awareness:** Get the word out on digital signs at Bison football game, Newman Outdoor Field, (Mary T knows sign people)Cook sign on Main Avenue(Jeannie check), North Fargo sign, city bus? Discussion about a radio spot WDAY, Business After Hours booth (Laura will register), Article in the Bridge – Chamber of Commerce magazine(Laura will check), Kathy Circle will make post cards, Tammy will check on getting posters from the Dept. of Labor to put up around agencies and the community.

Meeting Location: Kroll's Diner on Main Avenue in Fargo committed to having our committee through December. The space will accommodate more members. The Fryin Pan said that they couldn't promise the larger room, which is why we went with Kroll's. Unfortunately the city bus does not go to Kroll's diner. Members were willing to give rides. Discussion about this topic will continue at next month's meeting to ensure the meeting is accessible for all members.

Topics we did not get to, will be on the next agenda: Chick's Resource Guide/Card

Announcements:

- September 18th Freedom Resource Center Annual Meeting at Ramada Plaza Suites, \$10 includes dinner and speaker Billy Altom, national disability rights leader. Mary T or Laura E have tickets available
- Members who would like to meet early on regular MAMC meeting dates at 11:30am to talk about job development are welcome!

Next meeting is at Noon on Thursday, September 11th , at Kroll's Diner on Main Avenue.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Eberhardt