

**Metro Area Mayor's Committee
For People with Disabilities (MAMC)
Location: Fryn' Pan, Main Avenue, Fargo
November 9, 2006**

Present: Tom Thompson, Paula Aalgaard, Paulette Ness, Jeannie Krull, Ellen Dunn, Terry Romine, Jo Nygaard, MaryBeth Collier, Stephanie Sheets, Judy Siegle, Robert Anderson, Mark Breitbach, Dan Mahli, Jen Erickson.

Co-Chair presiding: Dan Mahli

October minutes were approved by consensus and no new additions were identified for the agenda.

Treasurer's Report – Mark Breitbach

Checking: \$5,728.44

GT grant: \$3,661.20

Savings: \$1,209.28

Total: \$10,598.92

Deposits: \$350.00 (3rd quarter City of Fargo Parking Fees)

Grace Tveiten account: The committee agreed to pay for a bike (work transportation) for a consumer who works with Community Living Services with \$200.00 allocated for this purchase.

Guest

Terry Romine was a guest at today's meeting. Jo Nygaard and Dan Mahli had connected with him to explore the idea of developing a separate website for the Metro Area Mayor's Committee. Cost estimates at this time include:

- \$300.00 for initial design and development
- \$100.00 per year to host the site
- Additional expenses would be determined if there were significant changes made to the site

Terry has 6 years of experience with website development and has done work for the City of Moorhead, the Spirit Room, and he also works at Friendship currently. If the committee proceeds with this idea and develops a work-for-hire agreement with Terry to develop and maintain the website, relevant information such as meeting minutes could be forwarded to Terry to add to the website for members, community members and others to view.

A motion was made to allocate \$300.00 to the creation of this website. Further dialogue prompted the committee to support a draft of the work-for-hire agreement before proceeding with final committee approval. It was suggested that the committee announce the new website at the Assistive Technology Expo/Awards Banquet and provide a demonstration at that time.

MAMC By-Laws

There was brief dialogue about the current by-laws and several comments to support the need to revise them with new language, such as inclusion of the ADA definition of a disability and changing the title of the committee to reflect the operating identity of the group (metro cities). It was noted that the committee should finalize revisions by the next election of officers. Paula A., Robert A. and Jen E. offered to contribute to the process of revising this document; however, it was noted that having someone with a historical perspective of the committee's functioning is also important. Committee members were encouraged to continue reviewing the by-laws in order to offer feedback and make future changes.

C.O.P.P.S. update

Tom indicated the City of Fargo has not yet responded to inquiries about an appropriate response/action in regard to businesses that have not achieved compliance for accessible parking. He also reported that one challenge in prompting a response from business owners is that some owners live outside of the city/state and they likely did not receive the notification that would instigate change. The committee talked about visiting Mayor Walaker or sending a letter to Chief Ternes with a copy going to Mayor Walaker for further consideration of this matter.

Overall, Tom noted there have been significant increases in parking compliance among business owners who were surveyed and subsequently received a letter, requesting compliance.

Awards Banquet

Tom T. encouraged members to be thinking about nominations for the Awards ceremony and requested that nominations be submitted by March 1st. A summary of the current award categories was provided.

The Awards Banquet and Assistive Technology Expo. are on April 5, 2007. The luncheon is expected to be \$10.00 per person and organizations or individuals interested in sponsoring a table are invited to contact a committee member. The head table is already being sponsored for \$250.00.

Additional items:

- Stephanie S. indicated that pertinent issues for the 2007 legislative session are being identified and invited committee members to provide contact information if they would like updates regarding this process. Stephanie distributed a sign-up sheet.
- The accessible park/playground is scheduled for completion this spring and the MAMC committee received a "Thank You" from the Rotary Club for the contribution of \$500.00. Tom T. noted that the project came in under budget (approximately \$185,000 versus the over \$200,00 raised).
- Robert A. communicated his nomination to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission.

Respectfully,

Jen Erickson