

**Metro Area Mayors Committee  
For People with Disabilities (MAMC)  
Location: Fryn' Pan, Main Avenue, Fargo  
December 13, 2007**

**Present:** Amanda Noce, Paulette Ness, MaryBeth Collier, Terry Romine, Sara Sha, Jeannie Krull, Brenda Majerus, Laura Eberhardt, Joey Morken, Steph Fridgen, Genn Berg, Kathy Circle, Vicky Bogart, Kati Langlie, Dan Mahli, Mary Tintes, Jen Erickson

**Co-Chair presiding:** Dan Mahli

The minutes for the November 2007 meeting were approved by consensus.

Today's agenda is approved with two additions: (1) photos on website dialogue (2) by-laws sub-committee formation

**Treasurer's Report – Paulette Ness**

Checking: \$3,059.58

GT grant: \$3,606.33

Savings: \$1,216.01

Total: \$7,881.92

Deposits: 0

Expenditures included \$209.00 for display booth materials/expenses for the Chamber of Commerce business-after-hours event and \$215.00 to cover costs associated with the Web Master.

One Grace Tveiten application was received and the sub-committee plans to review it today after this meeting.

**Speaker – Sara Sha**

Sara is the Interim Executive Director/Program Director of the Heritage Interpretive Center and she spoke to the group about upcoming exhibits (January – March), showcasing artists with disabilities and their accomplishments. The program is called Portrait of Spirit and the theme is one of compassion. Sara indicated exhibits from local artists will be unveiled on February 16<sup>th</sup> and will include decorative hats for persons with cancer (or other conditions/treatments, contributing to hair loss). Additionally, community service quilts will be shown to include Quilts of Valor, Linus quilts for disadvantaged children, and Seasons of Hope quilts for children residing in shelters. Sara indicated that performers with disabilities are also being sought.

As dialogue ensued, it was noted that additional funding is needed for marketing these upcoming events. Possible funding sources that were named include the Brehmer Foundation, which is recognized as having a fast turnaround time, the Human Relations Committee, and Walmart. Howard Barlow was identified as a local contact for the Brehmer Foundation. There was dialogue about the MAMC contributing funds to this effort as well. Jen E. made a motion to allocate \$300.00 toward marketing efforts and Laura E. provided the second. Motion passed. Committee members suggested that this program be advertised on the MAMC website for site visitors to view.

### **Americorp Project – Tom Thompson**

Tom T. provided information about a proposal to have an Americorp Volunteer facilitate work with the MAMC. Possible responsibilities may relate to promotional efforts, such as presentations to the community and working with the C.O.P.P. program. The Volunteer would work 20 hours per week and receive a \$700.00 monthly stipend and an educational award. The MAMC committee would be responsible for a 33% match (which can be in-kind). Tom plans to guide the efforts on this proposal.

### **Paratransit Appeals Committee – Tom Thompson**

Tom T. noted that riders who are dissatisfied with Paratransit services/decisions have the option to file a complaint, which is reviewed by an appeals committee. Currently Tom Thompson, Tammy Stuart, and Ron Sandness serve on this committee and two additional members are needed (including one rider). Laura Eberhardt agreed to be on this committee and Kathy Circle stated plans to check with her sister to see if she's interested in participating in this effort.

### **Awards Banquet – Tom Thompson**

Tom T. invited members to submit nominations for the Awards Banquet for all categories. He indicated that no nominations have been received in the healthcare category as of yet.

The meal choices include Lemon Chicken, Beef Burgundy, and a Vegetarian option. Mayors and past Mayors will be at the head table and there will be a rolling presentation to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. Because it's a milestone anniversary, the Visitors Bureau will create a banner at no charge.

There will be an insert in the Forum on the Saturday prior to the Awards Banquet, highlighting the MAMC and various types of programming for persons with disabilities. DBTAC may contribute to sponsorship for the banquet.

### **C.O.P.P. Program – no update**

#### **Additional items**

- Dan M. stated that he consulted with the City of Fargo legal council and indicated it shouldn't be a problem to add pictures of individuals being recognized at the awards banquet for the MAMC website without a formal consent.
- Jen E. indicated it's time for the annual by-laws review and asked if there were members interested in participating on the sub-committee in addition to Jen E. and Laura E. Mary Tintes expressed an interest in joining this sub-committee. Tom T. plans to email a copy of the current by-laws to the sub-committee.

Free lunch drawing recipient – Dan Mahli

Respectfully,

Jen Erickson