Mayor’s Committee for People with Disabilities
Minutes
Wednesday, July 15, 2020
In Attendance by Video Conference: Pat Jones, Steve Massopust, Patrick Czerny, Methina Brave Heart, Heather Hoeve, Catherine Greseth. In Attendance by Telephone Conference: Melanie Barclay. Sammy Jo Kenzy also joined during the meeting. Not in Attendance: Ara Baumstarck

Meeting was Called to Order: 3:36PM

1. Approval of Previous Minutes
Patrick made a motion to approve the previous minutes as written. Heather seconded that motion. Minutes were approved as read.

2. Old Business
   a. Liaison – Pat Jones – Ward 1
Pat Jones was introduced as the new liaison to the committee. He said he was happy to win the election and looking forward to being involved with several committees including this committee. The committee then introduced themselves, describing their backgrounds, and their purpose for being involved with the committee.
   b. Membership
The committee discussed membership. We currently have eight out of a maximum of 10 members. There was a previous discussion about consideration of a 12-member committee. Several committee members expressed concern that a 12-member committee may be too large to manage. It was a consensus of the group to keep the committee at 10 members thus allowing for the addition of two new members. Committee members were previously asked to review the applicants who wanted to serve on this committee. Two of the applicants received six votes, one received four, and two received three votes. There was a discussion about member term limits and how they would be staggered. It was decided that once the mayor appoints the two new members then we would ensure that there were five ending this term and then five ending next year. Heather made a motion to recommend Leah Nixon and Katie Peterson to The Mayor for appointment to this committee. Melanie seconded and that motion. The motion was passed by the committee. Thore Jenshus Would like to participate in an Advisor status.
   c. Mission/Vision
The committee discussed our mission statement. Some were wondering if the current statement was satisfactory. Some previous discussion was brought forth about it being too broad maybe it should be narrowed. The mission statement was read and some provided comments as to how we have accomplished some of the current mission. Catherine mentioned some of those as being the Badlands Tourism Guide, participation in the Parking Meter Committee, visits from the Dial-a-Ride staff, the ADA picnic and awards that we’ve given out to businesses who strive to be accessible. Committee members discussed how the city handles ADA complaints and resolutions and how we could be more involved with that. Catherine mentioned that Nick Stroot is the Human Resources Manager and the ADA Coordinator. He has visited with the group and we could once again have him meet with us to see how we could
work closer with him. Several members indicated that we could look for more direction from The Mayor. Pat Jones indicated that he has been involved with several committees and knows that the mayor appreciates recommendations from those committees. It was then decided that the committee members would send a list of potential mission activities to Steve by July 29. We could then prioritize those activities for submission to The Mayor to get his input as to our role.

d. Community Outreach Subcommittee – Ara, Laura, Sammi, Heather

The ADA picnic was canceled and so the community outreach committee could still meet to discuss some potential activities in the fall dependent on the Covid 19 status.

e. Bylaws Subcommittee - Sammi, Pat, Steve

Steve will call together a meeting of the bylaws subcommittee.

f. Media Subcommittee - Ara, Heather, Sammi

The media subcommittee is also hampered by the Covid 19 status. It could still meet and look at activities based on how we finish out our vision statement. Facebook is still an important role for this committee. Our website does need updating. Some members have left and we have new members to add.

g. Steve will get together with Melanie regarding the treasurer duties.

3. New Business

Sammi gave an update of the Parking Advisory Board. She indicated that a previously discussed proposal to allow veterans to park for free is no longer being considered. She also mentioned that there are still some with handicap lanyards or stickers that believe they can park for free in the handicap zones. That is not the case and those who do park even with the appropriate signage without paying the meter will receive a warning as their first time offense. She also mentioned that in the last month there was 1043 parking violations. 748 of those asked to appeal to the board and 340 were eventually dismissed. When asked for input from our committee she offered that may be there should be some PSA’s regarding handicap parking within the city. This could be discussed with Darryl Schumacher. Epic signs, radio stations and midcontinent may offer some free advertising. Possibly someone from our committee could be involved in the development of this.

Pat Jones mentioned that he had just received a text from Laurel Armstrong wishing the committee well.

4. Adjournment:

Patrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Methina seconded that motion. Meeting was adjourned at 4:18 PM