

CITY OF CORAL GABLES ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS
CORAL GABLES YOUTH CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2017 8:00 A.M.

- MEETING MINUTES -

MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTED BY:
	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	
Sally Baumgartner	*	P											James C. Cason
Patricia Sowers	*	P											Patricia Keon
Blake Sando	*	P											Vince Lago
Richard Whittington	*	P											Frank C. Quesada
Marie-Ilene Whitehurst	*	P											Jeannette Slesnick

P – Present
E – Excused Absence
A – Absent
(-) – No Appointment
(*) – No Meeting

STAFF:

1. Raquel Elejabarrieta, Director of Labor Relations and Risk Management / ADA and Non-Discrimination Coordinator
2. Lorena Garrido, Public Works Department

GUEST:

1. None.

CITIZEN ADVISORS:

1. Bonnie Blaire
2. Ernie Martinez, Center for Independent Living (C.I.L.S.F.)

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Baumgartner called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

MEETING ABSENCE: None.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL: None.

SECRETARY’S REPORT: None.

BOARD-RELATED COMMISSION ITEMS: None.

CITY UPDATE: None.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:

Ms. Sowers mentioned the Cognitive Impairments Training held on December 7th and its positive outcome. As a result of this presentation, she emailed Mrs. Elejabarrieta regarding a proposed monthly social event/program for young adults to be held at the Youth Center. The plan is to include activities, games and refreshments. Mrs. Elejabarrieta suggested for the details to be finalized in order to have it properly promoted.

Mr. Sando stated that UM-CARD has a similar program and it would be a good idea to coordinate with them. Ms. Sowers agreed this would be a good idea and will contact them.

Mrs. Blaire asked if this program will involve only those under the spectrum or everyone with a disability. She added this should be determined in order to reach out to the proper population to plan for requirements, needs, and supervision. She suggested that the group's structure should be established first.

Mrs. Elejabarrieta stated since CARD already has a similar program, someone should see how they reach out to individuals, who's included and what activities they provide. Mrs. Whitehurst volunteered.

Mr. Sando asked what do these young adults like to do and Mrs. Sowers responded: to have fun, play games, meet individuals like them, field trips to the movies.

Mr. Sando mentioned that maybe a movie night can be coordinated at the new Merrick Park theater. Mrs. Blaire commented that we need to think about if this is something sponsored by individuals versus the City, it would be much easier due to liability and other requirements. She added that the CIL may be able to assist.

Mr. Martinez mentioned the CIL has a similar program for the youth program and would want to do the same for the young adults.

Mrs. Blaire commented that it seems there are a few members that are willing to volunteer to discuss and plan this program

Mrs. Elejabarrieta said she envisioned this program starting with first identifying the location, the targeted population and beginning the first Wednesday of every month with a DVD movie, board games, snacks and supervision. This can be at the Youth Center and when everyone is comfortable then we can think about field trips and other.

Mrs. Whitehurst mentioned there are two additional groups that the Board can look into for planning the program: 1-Over 21 Club; 2- The Social Cog.

Mr. Blando added that in order to get this program off the ground, it will need to be promoted. Being that everyone in the Board has different networks they could reach to, it's a positive thing. He suggested identifying a date for the first young adult social and passing the information to

CARD as well as our network connections. We can then receive the feedback from those who attend as well their interests.

Mr. Martinez suggested bringing this topic to the Associations of Agencies (AOA) which is made up of multiple interest groups and local/state agencies who work with persons with disabilities. They can assist with getting the word out.

Mrs. Elejabarrieta added that she sees this program being similar to an after school care program when relating to fees. The cost can be passed-on to those who attend, similar to registering to classes at the Youth Center. The first social should be a meet and greet. She will contact Mr. Couceyro to discuss the room availability options for this program.

It was determined that Mrs. Sowers, Mrs. Whitehurst, Mr. Sando from the Board would spearhead this program.

Mr. Martinez added that a subcommittee should be created to plan this program. The subcommittee will include: Mrs. Elejabarrieta, Mr. Martinez, Mrs. Sowers, Mrs. Whitehurst and Mr. Sando. The subcommittee will meet and report their ideas and progress to the Board.

PROGRAM: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Martinez mentioned that Mr. Leen's office has a knob. Mrs. Elejabarrieta stated that as part of the City's ADA transition plan, the consultant surveys all City facilities for ADA concerns including signage, restrooms, ramps and doors. Upon completion, a report will be provided to the City to implement solutions.

Mrs. Baumgartner added that there are some issues with Parking Department employees parking next to handicap spaces in the garage. This limits the accessibility for users. She mentioned pictures were sent to Ms. Garrido who forwarded them to the Parking Department Director.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned 9:00 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, March 1, 2017, 8:00 am to be held at the *Coral Gables Youth Center's Conference Room.*