

MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

November 19, 2008

PLACE: Oak Park Senior Center
Arts & Crafts Room
730 E. Fulton

DATE/TIME: November 19, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT: Don Aguillard, Marilyn Fialkow-Chadnick, Jean Foletta, George Lewis, Mary Nicholson, and Danny Nuss

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Connie Cochran (recorder) and Kathy Whitman

GUESTS PRESENT: Jesse Peterson (SUSD – Project LIVE serving mild – moderately disabled adults up to age 22)

OPENING COMMENTS

- The meeting was called to order by Don Aguillard at 11:09 a.m.
- Introduction of attendees
- Minutes reviewed and approved

PUBLIC COMENTS

- None

OPEN DISCUSSION

ADA Reports

- San Joaquin RTD updates – Jean Foletta
 - Yokuts Mall transfer moved to Pacific Avenue
 - Pouring concrete, electrical work, and energize street lights scheduled
 - Ingress opened for holiday shoppers
 - Buses to return to Yokuts in December
 - Budget challenges
 - No fixed-route service on Thanksgiving Day
 - Dial-A-Ride: limited service; priority to seniors and disabled; for those with no other options; \$5 one-way; must reserve by November 24th; will most likely be the same for Christmas and New Year's; press releases will be issued by SJRTD; Connie Cochran agreed to run Channel 97 slide with reduced services notification
 - Sacramento Para Transit
 - Task Force Members Art Gomez (Co-Chair) and Judy Robertson visited Sacramento to see how their system is operated; services are coordinated with other social service agencies; overall cost is reduced through coordination

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November 19, 2008

DEPARTMENT REPORT

- Kathy Whitman, Revenue Services Officer, Financial Management Department
 - Business License
 - Covered by Stockton Municipal Code (SMC) Chapter 6
 - This is a tax.
 - Businesses must have a License.
 - Application and payment through counter service or mail; Renew and pay online coming in January 2009
 - Changes to the Code must go to the voters.
 - Don asked about discounts on Business License tax for the disabled, much like that offered for disabled veterans; Kathy explained that this section of the Code is very specific – vets cannot do manual labor, peddler and mobile vendor; any changes to the Business License tax section of the Code would need to go to the voters.
 - Marilyn shared that she had held a meeting with Dr. Rodriguez, San Joaquin Delta College, asking that the Small Business Development Center develop a program specific to assisting those with disabilities to start businesses. Dr. Rodriguez directed her to work with Gillian Murphy.
 - Other functions performed by Revenue Services
 - Collection of fees for Parks and Recreation Department (now, Community Services Department), Central Parking District, and utility bills – also opening and closing of utility billing accounts.
 - Utility payment systems, such as Inter-active Voice Response through the telephone system, and online payments through the web site.
 - Don suggested that grants be explored to address service friendly options for the disabled.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education, Employment Outreach Committee

- Art Gomez, Co-Chair
 - Asked who would like to chair this committee in the coming year; no one present volunteered
 - Marilyn would like to produce a film featuring people with disabilities, their talents, skills and abilities, to share with prospective employers

Housing Committee

- Don stated that he had called Carol Ornelas, Visionary Homes, to see if she would be able to participate in this sub-committee

Transportation and Mobility Committee

- No report

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November 19, 2008

Youth/Community Development Outreach Committee

- No report

OLD BUSINESS

- Connie Cochran asked that Task Force members identify members of the deaf community who would be willing to participate in a focus group to determine the best method of communication with the City when accessing City services. Focus group would likely begin in February 2009. No more than six adults, who live independently. Purpose is to determine if TTY/TDD services are the appropriate equipment.

NEW BUSINESS

- No report

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Don Aguillard: No meeting in December; begin meeting again in January 2009
- Connie Cochran: gave an overview of City furlough, office closures, and services available during the furlough, such as Police, Fire, and urgent water service needs.
- Mary Nicholson: Healing in Motion presented, "Caring for the Caregiver" Symposium, First Baptist, Saturday, November 15, 2008, well received and attended.
- George Lewis: Self-Advocacy Celebration, Save the Date – February 6, 2009, 10a – 2p, at Quail Lakes Baptist Church
- George Lewis: Choices Institute 22nd Annual Conference, Save the Date – Friday, April 24, 2009, at the San Joaquin County Office of Education, theme: My Life, My Story, My CHOICES 2009! Sam Durbin is the key note speaker.

ADJOURN:

Don Aguillard adjourned the meeting at 12:00.

NEXT MEETING

January 21, 2009 - 11:00 a.m. Oak Park Senior Center, Arts & Craft Room

Please call (209) 937-8499 for copies of any handouts/additional information.

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