***Minutes of the Meeting of the Mayor’s Disability Council***

*Tuesday, May 07, 2024; 3:00PM Mayor’s Conference Rm*

**~Members Present:** Natalie Alden, Barbara Brown, Alexis Gonzalez, Teona Haugabook, Walter Johnson, Ronald McCauley, Jose Morales, Dan O’Connor, Anida Pollo, Ray Pringle, Denise Torres & Stephanie Young (awaiting appointment approval)

**~Ad Hoc Members Present:** Tonja Ferrell, Gonza Gonzague, Jason Markingson (Director of Special Education, DCPS)

**~Staff Members Present:** Kara Tucker & Tereese Goodloe

**~Public Guest Present:** Bridgette Matthews (MV Transportation), Lina Pollo (Anida’s mom), Lou Anne Hasty (Career Source)

Meeting started at 2:50pm by Chair Jose Morales and acknowledgement of new members: Alexis Gonzalez from Wounded Warrior, Teona Haugabook-Miss Wheelchair Florida, and Stephanie Young from Challenge Enterprises followed by…

* **Welcome and Introduction** total 12 members present (Quorum), 3 Ad Hoc members present, and 2 Staff members present.
* **Parliamentarian** skipped
* **Approval of Minutes (March & April) –** motioned to approved by Ray Pringle, 2nd by Denise Torres, no further discussion, minutes for March and April approved.
* **Pledge of Allegiance –** all participated
* **Public Comment** - No public comment

New members gave a brief introduction and background.

* **Announcements:**
  + **Disabled Services** – Chief Kara Tucker
* Fair Housing Expo 2024, Saturday, April 6th, 9am-3pm at Southbank Hotel
* Westside High School – community Impact Day 2024, April 20th
* San Jose Elementary – Spring Fest Community Event, Saturday, April 27th
* Jumbo Shrimp game – Saturday,

May 4th

* JaxReady Fest – Friday, May 10th & Saturday, May 11th
* Working on Town Hall later in the year regarding Healthcare & Awareness
* COJ Career Fair – June 18th 
  + - ADA Week – July 20th – July 26th
    - ADA & IT Symposium – July 23rd
    - Disability Expo – July 25th
    - Met with the Administration regarding Health Advocacy – May 6th
* **JaxReady Fest –** If anyone attends give feedback to Jose Morales
* **Parking Enforcement (DPEP)** – Training last month -Guest Attendance/Recognition: Former JSO Chief Burton & Current Chief Burton (long time advocates of the Division and Parking Enforcement Program)
* **Old Business:** Dan O’Connor suggest doing something for Alice Krauss who recently retired from Brooks Rehab **–** motion by Ray, 2nd by Anida…
* **Discussion** – what would the plaque say: Community Partner - Tenor Community Partner…agreement with motion, approved. Motion for people who served, Amy Nelson and Karen Prewitt. Questioned what has been done in the past? Plaques with name and thank you for your service but never consistent. Instead of plaque, a medallion, like a service coin. Somebody who serves for 6 years in good standing – motioned by Ray, second by others, will pick format on how it looks later
* **New Business:**
* **Subcommittee Reports/update (5 minutes)**
* **LEAPSC Subcommittee – Natalie Alden**

Highlights:

* Jim Brady Scholarship – feedback on trying to expand, need to update ordinance & rules established.
* Mark Rosser Sponsorship – get into an ordinance (mimic the James Brady)
* Housing Task Force – when Jose gets a date for next meeting, will give to Kara to send out to council
* Duval County Public Schools – need a list of events from different schools so we can get vendors there to educate parents, teachers and students on resources available to students with disabilities.
* August 6th meeting – Guest: AIRA App Representative (gave a list of questions)
* Proclamations- White Cane add Sister Statue
* Art Museum Drive – voted on letter; motioned for approval & second from full council, further discussion…
* **Discussion:** feedback-public safety concerns-crossing (crosswalk) broken, more than have of residents that live there also have disabilities; at least 50% are Section 8 Housing and either elderly or have disabilities. Also, per Ron McCauley, Department of Children & Families (DCF) has a new Service Center and no but stops on that side of street and not accessible for families to get in… letter approved by full council with these edits
* **Announcement:** meeting scheduled for Thursday, 10am with JTEC via zoom.
* White Paper for Round-abouts
* Website: Stephanie Young working on palm card pamphlets with QR code to website to put in medical facilities so people can see all the resources available in Jacksonville for the disabled
  + **Employment Subcommittee** – **Jose Morales**
    - * Guest-Susan Peters of PossAbilities Plus
      * Employer Nomination – Pledge system, to get companies to pledge to be a part of this campaign
      * Shop-ability Day for employees that support disabled workers
      * Survey/Assessment (mimic the FIS Assessment) to get feedback from the community, sent to everyone in the council…
  + **Discussion** on meaningful jobs for persons with disabilities and why it’s great for HR Managers & Companies to hire persons with a disability
    - * June 18th – COJ Career Fair, need CareerSource and VR to attend – Gonza states he can be there & Per Lou Anne Hasty, Career Source will already be there.
      * Workshop on how to start self-employment – 1 day workshop toward end of the year.
      * Disability Expo – Reasonable Accommodations Panel (if you know of anybody with a disability who’s employed and would like to be on the panel, send their information to Kara)
  + **Healthcare & Adaptive Sports** – **Ray Pringle**
    - Town Hall scheduled to have at Regency Library on June 11th but changed to September 3rd 
      * + June 11th regular meeting
    - 5 Topics on situations and difficulties persons with disabilities are faced with while at medical facilities (doctors offices and Hospitals)
      * + Administration committed to helping with Town Hall: reaching out to the Executive of the Hospitals to join
        + Training and awareness for Hospital Executive & Staff (start at the top)
        + Invite We Care Jax and Connect Jacksonville (got money from City Council last year for health access)
        + Create a survey to get feedback from community on health access main pain points
        + Prep meeting with Administration before Town Hall (Sept. 3rd) so they know what to expect
        + Sect. 504 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Part 84 Final Rule fact sheet – medical treatment; values, assessments and methods; child warfare programs and activities; web and mobile accessibility; accessible medical equipment; and integration. Including approvements to the Americans with Disabilities Act where it goes into information about service animals, maintenance of accessible features, personal services and devices, mobility devises and communications, as well as direct threats and retaliation and coercion and limitations.
* **Ad Hoc Reports**
  + **Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) – Jason Markingson**
* Preparing for Graduations
* Getting ready for extended school years (getting ready)
* Principal Institute for Principles this summer
  + **JSO- Not present**
  + **Library/Talking Books – Tonja Ferrell**
* Promoting *Books by Mail* – on services page right next to *Talking Books –* writing letters to community partners, nursing home, senior centers & doing outreach
* *Talking Books* – have flyers & brochures
  + **Transportation – Bridgette MV**
  + Paratransit service for Clay & Duval County – contracted through JTA
  + Continuing to hire so on-time performance has improved
* **Discussion:** issue with JTA raised by Ray Pringle, reached out JTA contact (Chris Macklin) by text, email, phone and cannot get a response had a family from Brooks who wanted to use the transit system while they were here and no one from JTA would call me back. Bridgette will get someone to reach out.
  + **VR – Gonza Gonzague** - payment issues - was 2 months after services provided, now payments are processed in about 2 days.
  + **Brooks Rehabilitation – not present**
  + **CIL – Jose Morales** – no update
  + **Disability Rights Florida – Natalie Alden** – no update
  + **Announcement:** 
    - **Ray Pringle -** President of Organization in Dinsmore, meeting 4th Monday of Month, lot of City Council members and State Reps involved in working with people with disabilities in our community, over 600 members, would like Kara to come and speak with us
    - **Stephanie Young –** Kendra Scott jewerly,1-3pm, May 12th or shop on-line, 20% of proceeds to Challenge Enterprises
    - **Walter Johnson –** trying to get back involved
    - **Denise Torres –** Collab with Sulzbacher on housing referrals
    - **Ron McCauley –** Department of Children & Families issue
    - **Barbara Brown –** Florida Council of Blind Annual Convention May 16th – 19th
* **Public Comment** – Speaker Cards: None
* **Adjourn Meeting**

Chair: Jose Morales

Vice-Chair: Natalie Alden

**Disabled Services Division**

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