



Lafayette City-Parish President's Awareness Committee for Citizens with Disabilities

Monday, January 10, 2011

Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present:	Donna Andrus, Randy Broussard, Lynette Fontenot, Zelie Guidry, Mark Guillory, Rose Shuff, Donielle Watkins
Guests in Attendance:	Harold Arceneaux, Deborah Aymond, Rita Dishongh, Sheryl Doga, Diane Dodt-Gauthier
LCG Staff Present:	Lou Anna Angelle, Carlee Alm-LaBar

1. Randy Broussard called the meeting to order.

2. Randy welcomed the committee members and visitors.

3. The committee approved the December minutes.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

- Email from Harold Arceneaux regarding the Taxicab Operators Guide.
 - Flyer from Acadiana Area Special Olympics – Second Annual Shrimp Boil to be held on March 20, 2011, in Girard Park.
 - Copy of the Evacuation Study by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research – Promising Practices for Evacuating People with Disability.
 - Flyer from the Lafayette Parish Special Olympics Basketball & Cheerleading League
5. Deborah Aymond informed the committee about the upcoming Agency Resource Fair that will be held on February 2, 2011 at the Robicheaux Center, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The committee decided to have a booth, and the committee's flyer will be worked on to be distributed at the event.
6. Harold Arceneaux addressed the committee regarding his concerns for the lack of para-transit service outside of the city limits. He also voiced his concerns regarding the lack of taxicab service for citizens with disabilities, especially those in wheelchairs, and he distributed a pamphlet of guidelines and helpful tips for taxi drivers for serving people with disabilities.

Rita Dishongh informed the committee of a situation where one stop on a street is in the City of Lafayette and the other side is considered the Parish of Lafayette, and she can't be dropped off because it is in the Parish. She requested that the committee look into the possibility of expanding the Para-transit service to the Parish.

Donna Andrus mentioned the possibility of grant funding for the additional service, and she asked Harold Arceneaux to assist with looking for additional funding.

Several of the committee members agreed that transportation for citizens with disabilities can be very difficult for those outside city limits, and the committee requested that a representative from Lafayette Consolidated Government Traffic and Transportation Department, and SMILE, a local nonprofit agency, be asked to attend the next meeting to discuss the committee's concerns.

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7. Donielle Watkins informed the committee that she has information for the Agency Resource Directory, but it needs to be placed in Word Document format. She will contact Americorps for assistance with this project.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.
9. The next meeting of the President's Awareness Committee for Citizens with Disabilities is scheduled for **Monday, February 14, 11:30-12:30** in the **Council Briefing Room** on the first floor of Lafayette City Hall.