



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

Monday, July 12, 2010

Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Donna Andrus; Deborah Aymond; Marcelle Pradier; Jim Richard; Peggy Stelly
Guests in Attendance: Charlene Meaux-Menard; Mark Guillory; Betty Guidry; Jacqueline "Jackie" Leblanc; Donielle Watkins
LCG Staff Present: Lou Anna Angelle; Carlee Alm-LaBar

1. Jim Richard called the meeting to order.
2. Jim welcomed Charlene Meaux-Menard, Registrar of Voters. Ms. Menard discussed the following:
 - Voting rights for the elderly and individuals with disabilities on early voting dates and election dates
 - Additional handicap parking spaces made available for early voting dates and on election days at 1010 Lafayette Street location.
 - Application for absentee by mail ballot
 - Assistance at the voting polls
 - Audio voting keypad
 - The 121 polling locations in Lafayette Parish
3. Carlee Alm-Labar will work with Charlene Meaux-Menard to send out PSA's regarding voting rights for individuals with disabilities.

4. The election dates are as follows:

<u>Early voting</u>	<u>Election Date</u>
August 14-21, 2010	August 28, 2010
September 18-25, 2010	October 2, 2010
Oct 19-22, 2010	November 2, 2010

5. The committee approved the June minutes.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- Flyer – Geaux Vote! Learn about changes to your voting rights
- Emails from Harold Arceneaux regarding Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Email from the Autism Society of Acadiana, ASAC regarding:
 - ◆ the Autism Tennis Challenge, September 10 -12, 2010, City Club @ River Ranch
 - ◆ LaCAN Action Alert requesting Congress to approve an extension to the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) increase

7. 2010 Disability Job Fair

Deborah Aymond informed the committee that the Disability Job Fair will be held on October 21, 2010, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Heymann Center, and flyers are being prepared for distribution.

The Lafayette Consolidated Government waived the rental fees for the use of the Heymann Center for the event.

The next planning meeting will be held on July 29, 2010 at the Louisiana Rehabilitation Services Office.

Deborah Aymond indicated there will be (7) seven interpreters at the Job Fair.

8. 2010 Disability Committee Awards Presentation

The committee discussed the upcoming awards presentation. It was decided that a sub-committee chaired by Deborah Aymond will work on the details and report back to the committee next month.

- 9.** Jim Richard indicated that the park should be completed by the end of August. He also stressed that Lafayette Consolidated Government should be thanked for their assistance with this project.

- 10.** Peggy Stelly discussed upcoming devices for blind individuals. ****SEE NOTE AND CLARIFICATION BELOW**

- 11.** Donielle Watkins briefly discussed Dream Foundation.

- 12.** The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

- 13.** The next meeting of the President's Awareness Committee for Citizens with Disabilities is scheduled for **Monday, August 9, 2010, 11:30-12:30** in the **Council Briefing Room** on the first floor of Lafayette City Hall.

****CLARIFICATION: THERE WAS A DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING ABOUT THE UPCOMING DAYTONA 500 RACE AND THE FEATURING OF A NEW VEHICLE DRIVEN BY A BLIND INDIVIDUAL. INTERNET RESEARCH CLARIFIES THIS TO BE A NEW VEHICLE, A MODIFIED FORD ESCAPE, WILL BE UNVEILED AT THE DAYTONA INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY IN JANUARY 2011, WHICH CAN BE DRIVEN BY A BLIND PERSON. THE BLIND PERSON WHO IS TO DRIVE THIS PROTOTYPE HAS NOT YET BEEN NAMED.**