



LLOYD WINNECKE
MAYOR

City of Evansville – Vanderburgh County
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

DIANE CLEMENTS-BOYD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY SERVICES
JANUARY 8, 2021
CIVIC CENTER ROOM 301

MINUTES

MEMBERS

Mark Weatherwax
Ramona Harvey – via remote
Megan Utley, via Phone
Robert Guzzo – via remote
Carolyn Gallagher – via remote
Brian Kellems – via remote

STAFF

Diane Clements-Boyd, Executive Director
Bonnie Fox

The monthly meeting of the Advisory Board on Disability Services was called to order on the above date by Chairman Mark Weatherwax.

Evansville City Clerk, Laura Windhorst swore in the Mayor and City Council appointees.

County Clerk, Carla Hayden swore in Bob Guzzo and Megan Utley.

The director reported that three members have not reapplied and wants to know if they are still interested in their board positions. Director Clements-Boyd conveyed to Ramona Harvey to contact Kristin Comer in the County Commissioners office because she had already reapplied. Board member Guzzo explained that he had filled out his paperwork for board renewal and apparently there was a mix-up in the office because they did not have his paperwork, he advised Board member Harvey to call the Commissioners' office.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda Requests – Board member Guzzo requested to report on the COVID-19 vaccine and people with disabilities.

Roll was called with the above-named board members and staff in attendance.

There were no minutes of the December meeting due to recording issues.

PRESENTATIONS:

No presentations for the January meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

2021 Agenda –

A few members asked about the meeting agenda and the director explained that the meeting agenda was emailed to all.

Chairman Weatherwax expressed interest in having a representative from Social Security Administration for a presentation on information and requirements for obtaining Social Security disability benefits. He referred to commercials about attorneys helping individuals get their disability, and explained that it would be ideal to have a representative come and explain what needs to be done without the expense of hiring an attorney. Board member Gallagher also explained that if one uses an attorney the attorney would get a percentage of the money received but the person applying does all the work for the attorney. Board member Gallagher explained that she did not necessary recommend Legal Aid and Legal Services, but that Carver Community Center has been helpful as there is someone there to help. Chairman Weatherwax will contact Social Security for information and guidance on setting up a virtual meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

FINDER -

Board member Guzzo reported that a press release went out on December 29th about the program. He thanked the director, the chairman and Vicky Johnson, the contact at FINDER for help and support. He reminded the board members to make their contacts. He has some materials left but not much, and the director has FINDER material if needed by anyone. He told Board member Gallagher that he would contact Vicky at FINDER to inquire about materials for Ascension St. Vincent. Board member Weatherwax will contact patient relations at the hospital to inquire on displaying the materials.

He also reported that the COVID-19 vaccine is now available and Indiana is the only state that is extending the vaccine to personal care attendants. There were reports that when people tried to register the programs were crashing and SWIRCA had experienced the same problem.

AccessAbility Decal Program –

Board member Utley reported information on the design for the decal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The director reported the virtual HRC Annual Dinner recording will air on WNIN on January 16th at 5:30 pm. It will also be available on Face Book Live and You Tube. After the recorded version the doctors will be live to answer questions. She also reported that Mayor Winnecke will present Ben Trockman the Workforce Diversity Award.

Director Clements-Boyd reported that due to previous meeting not being recorded extra steps are being taken to get the meeting minutes. The present meeting is being recorded live through Granicus as well as utilizing the manual recorder. The director suggested having the meeting on Granicus, which would allow all meetings to be seen live on the City of Evansville website. Members of the public can go to the archives and watch the meeting at their leisure. Board members expressed interest in using Granicus. The director will explore adding the meetings to Granicus.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was properly moved and seconded to adjourn this January meeting.