

COMMITTEE ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Friday, November 4, 2005, 10:30 a.m.
Aupuni Conference Room

PRESENT: Ted Yamanaka, Vice-Chair; Betsy Whitney, Secretary; Michael Gleason, Jack Matsui, Laura Tobosa

EXCUSED: Lawrence Scadden, Chair; Denise Cowdrey, James Souza

GUESTS: Mallory Kaipo, CNA; Howard Marks, DD Council; Alisa Mitchener, Recreation Specialist-Department of Parks and Recreation; Teri Spinola-Campbell, ADA Coordinator (Equal Opportunity Officer)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. An introduction of committee members, staff, and guests was made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M. Gleason made a motion to accept the minutes of September 2, 2005. L. Tobosa seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ISSUES

None.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was reviewed.

M. Gleason made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as submitted. L. Tobosa seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

A. Copy of letters from Mayor H. Kim to John Hartman and Karleen Stillman regarding the violation of Justin Kaponu Tokioka rights to have an ASL interpreter at the Pony Club Ball Game

TEAM REPORTS

A. EDUCATION/PUBLIC AWARENESS TEAM – M. GLEASON

No report.

B. RECREATION TEAM – L. SCADDEN

No report.

C. TRANSPORTATION TEAM – B. WHITNEY

No report.

A. Mitchener reported on the quarterly issue of Impact from the University of Minnesota and its special feature meeting transportation needs of youth and adults with developmental disabilities. She likes the series of training curriculum offered by Easter Seals called Project ACTION that discusses travel training for people with disabilities. She offered to share it with anyone who wants to coordinate some training with staff or individuals.

D. NOMINATING TEAM – M. GLEASON/L. TOBOSA/B. WHITNEY

M. Gleason reported that an interested applicant who applied is from Honokaa, but she works at Kona Krafts in Kona. Therefore, the team suggested re-advertising in the newspaper for interested applicants and to urge persons with disabilities to apply.

A. Mitchener suggested that H. Marks make an announcement at the DD Council meeting in Kona.

T. Spinola-Campbell said she will make an announcement at the Legislative Forum in Kona.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. VOLUNTEER PARKING VIOLATION ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE – SGT. D. VERIATO

Sergeant D. Veriato submitted program statistics for the Volunteer Disabled Parking Enforcement Program for July to September 2005 which was distributed to MCPD members.

B. UPDATE FROM DCAB – C. FLEMING/N. OLESEN/K. SHAW

The October report from K. Shaw, DCAB was distributed to MCPD members. The November report was not distributed since there was not ample time to make it accessible for all participants.

C. ADA COORDINATOR'S REPORT – T. SPINOLA-CAMPBELL

T. Spinola-Campbell provided her report as the ADA Coordinator for September and October 2005. ADA Coordinator's report attached.

D. PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT – A. MITCHENER

A. Mitchener provided a report on Aquatics and the Recreation Division. The report is attached.

E. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS – L. SCADDEN

B. Whitney reported that she attended a conference in Washington, DC and two weeks later attended a conference in Honolulu for Associated programs for Rural Independent Living. Many discussions were held regarding people with disabilities and the hurricane such as people being separated from their guide dogs at the shelter. After Hurricane Katrina, there were 800 people with disabilities who had been living independently in their homes, were working, and were taken to nursing

homes. They couldn't get out of their nursing homes because when they were flown from wherever they were to the nursing homes, their wheelchairs were left at the tarmac at the airport with no identifying tags. Therefore, many counties are now reviewing their disaster plans and discussing making agreements with the Centers for Independent Living, Red Cross, National Guard, and people with accessible vans. These agencies need to work together. They need to understand that the services that can be provided during an emergency are very valuable.

H. Marks reported that the Department of Health is heading some kind of statewide initiative on emergency preparedness.

NEW BUSINESS

L. Tobosa reported there was a Medicare Education Forum sponsored by the State Executive Office on Aging held at Aunty Sally Kaleohano's Luau Hale. A person who has a disability or an elderly person who has early stages of Alzheimer's or dementia will have a difficult time understanding what to do because it's a complicated plan.

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ISSUES

H. Marks reported that there will be an East Hawaii Legislative Forum on November 17 at Wailoa State Park, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

H. Marks said he has been in touch with Hawaii Disability Rights Center and there seems to be some confusion regarding natural guardianship. The issue has been straightened out and the Attorney General's Office will speak to the appropriate agencies to have them educated that there is no such thing as natural guardianship. An effort is underway to have the old law removed legislatively.

H. Marks mentioned that he wrote a resolution on missing persons for the State of Hawaii. He will share it with MCPD when it's in a presentable form. He also wrote a bill regarding missing persons which is very broad.

H. Marks stated that he has been hearing that HCEO and Coordinated Services for the Elderly have been denying people with disabilities access to their transportation systems. However, this is not true. M. Gleason said that he heard a comment by one of the HCEO administrators that they can't find employees to be drivers.

H. Marks indicated that foster care homes are disqualified if they have catchment water. However, foster homes for children are not disqualified. Therefore, the policy needs to be reviewed so more options are available for people.

The East Hawaii Developmental Disability Committee and the West Hawaii Developmental Disability Committee wrote a letter of concern to Medicaid regarding dental care and access to care on the Big Island. The State Mental Health Division and the Medicaid office referred it to him to find out how many people on the Big Island are having trouble accessing dental care, specifically pain management services and how many are there who need to be flown to Honolulu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting will be held on Friday, December 2, 2005, at 11:00 a.m. in Kona.
Location to be announced.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JEAN VIERNES, STAFF SECRETARY