

Disabilities Advisory Commission Minutes  
January 13, 2014

Present: Vern Richardson, John Suess, John Teumer, Zach Wood, Diane Hinrichs, Chris Kanowitz, Chauncey Taylor, B.J. Michels, Larry Abston, Bettie Greenberg, and Dave McDanal

Absent: Leona Watson

Meeting Called to Order: 6:00 p.m.

Minutes: John S. moved to approve the minutes; Vern seconded the motion. Motion approved.

### **PEOPLE FIRST**

Lisa C. and Taylor S of the ARC of Larimer County, and Julian with People First (PF) explained that PF is an organization of people with disabilities. They wanted to attend a DAC meeting to observe, learn, and see if any of their members might want to join DAC. Discussion ensued regarding common interests such as transportation and whether DAC would want to participate in a transportation forum. It was suggested that PF contact the Northern Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization (contact information was provided). Lisa, Taylor, and Julian provided background information on PF. The organization helps people advocate for themselves. Activities include educational forums, such as non-partisan election information, and social events. ARC sponsors People First, but PF is a separate organization.

### **LIAISON REPORTS**

Council Report: Chauncey said that Council has a planning retreat scheduled for January 25 at Group Publishing to set up goals for the upcoming year, such as Public Safety, Economic Development, and Flood Recovery. The meeting is open to the public. He also reported that Council was hearing a presentation, at the January 14 study session, on a downtown mixed-use development project on Third St. The County is also looking at that location for moving its Loveland facility. Chauncey also mentioned that the Bass Pro Shop development is moving forward.

Discussion ensued regarding snow removal on cross walks, curb cuts, bus stops, etc. It is hard for people in wheelchairs to use sidewalks and cross streets. Bettie said she will look into the matter.

DRS: Dave said that due to the Affordable Health Care Act, lots of DRS clients have been getting on Medicaid over the last few months and can now get the health care needed. Chris had a picture of Dave accepting money (\$4,100) for people with disabilities that were victims of the flood.

Staff Liaison: Bettie reported that PrideFest is being revamped for 2014. Discussed the name of the event, the type of music, etc. are being reconsidered.

The Boards & Commissions summit will be held February 27<sup>th</sup>. Chris and Diane will represent DAC and they are not scheduled to provide a presentation on DAC's 2013 accomplishments. Bettie will compile the list of DAC's accomplishments for the event.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

Accessibility Report: John S. said that he spoke to Tom Hawkinson and determined that the Building Division does not need DAC to review plans; such review is redundant. John also spoke to Bob Paulsen, Development Services. Bob expressed interest in having DAC review plans for parking lots before the plans go to Building.

Transportation: Larry provided Bettie with his bus stop evaluations; however, he still needs to provide pictures. Chris said that she has done nine and will bring them to the next meeting.

PR/Communication: Chris and Diane are doing an outreach table at the ARC Thrift Store next Tuesday.

Historian: Chris gave John S. the article on DRS.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

Adjournment: Zach moved to adjourn; John S. seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Adjourned: 7: 17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bettie Greenberg, Secretary