

MEETING MINUTES
ST. MARY'S COUNTY COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
THURSDAY – FEBRUARY 19, 2015
ROOM 14 POTOMAC BUILDING * LEONARDTOWN, MARYLAND

CALL TO ORDER – The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. (This is a recorded meeting)

ROLL CALL –Members present were:

Eric Colvin	Citizen Rep
David Ryan	Citizen Rep, Chair
Christina Bishop	Recreation & Parks, Vice-Chair
Lois Coryell	St. Mary's County Library
Ben Smith	Citizen Rep
Joshua Brewster	Greenwell Foundation
Pamela Ford on behalf of Sandra Dent	SMCIL
Lisa Berry	Pathways, Inc.
Mary Ann Blankenship	DPW & T
Monika Williams on behalf of Rebecca Kessler	Aging & Human Services
Melissa Seigman	DSS

Felton Rothwell, Michelle Tilman, Sarah Vahle, Bonnie Elward, Crystal Frederick, Maurice Chase, Cynthia Brown, Jodi Campo, and Tomica Scriber were excused.

OTHER ATTENDEES – Sherri St. Clair and Kevin Selby from St. Mary's College of Maryland.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – Motion to approve the February 19, 2015 agenda was made by Mr. Colvin and seconded by Mr. Brewster, the motion passed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Motion to approve the January 15, 2015 minutes as written was made by Mr. Colvin and seconded by Mr. Brewster, the motion passed.

BUDGET REPORT –

Account	Budget	Balance
Other Contract Services	\$1700	\$750
Supplies & Materials	\$600	\$600
Total	\$2300	\$1350

- The Commission will research purchasing more giveaways for the 25th anniversary of ADA.

OFFICER'S REPORT –

- Meeting Time & Length – Mr. Ryan discussed the meeting day, time, and length with the commission members and will continue with the set schedule of the third Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. in Room 14.
- Committee List – Mr. Ryan distributed a list of various sub-committees and each member assigned to the committee.

- Wish List – Mr. Ryan stated that members and agencies should put together a list of what they would like the committee to do such as activities or events.
- Term Limit Letter – Mr. Ryan sent a letter to the Commissioners regarding Ms. St. Clair's term that ended December 31, 2014 and asked the board to reconsider another term for Ms. St. Clair. Ms. St. Clair is a vital member of the commission and brings a wealth of knowledge to the membership. In the by-laws, it states citizen members are limited to a certain number of terms. Mr. Ryan will report back to the commission when a response is received.

ADA COORDINATOR REPORT –

- Ms. Bishop stated that she and Building Services conducted an ADA inspection at the Health Department Building in Leonardtown; recommendations were made to correct areas not in compliance.
- Ms. Bishop, Ms. Seigman, and Ms. St. Clair will work together on the Disabilities Awards Program. The commission will accept nominations through June 1, 2015. The purpose of the awards program is to promote awareness and recognize the outstanding efforts of individuals and organization that improve the quality of life for persons with disabilities in St. Mary's County. There are six award categories which include volunteer, notable employer, care partner award, innovative program, and the Vicki Brown Award (2 awards). More information can be found at <http://www.stmarysmd.com/voluntr/DisabilityAwardsProgram.asp>.

DISCUSSION OF OLD BUSINESS –

- ADA Coordinator Position Follow-Up – The letter and draft position description was forwarded to the Commissioners for their review. Mr. Ryan will follow-up with the commission when a response is received.

DISCUSSION OF NEW BUSINESS –

- Meeting Speaker Schedule – Mr. Ryan is working to establish the 2015 speaker list for the commission meetings.
- 2015 Calendar – Mr. Ryan distributed a draft calendar for the commission for planning purposes; member suggestions and additions are welcome.
- Plans & Goals for 2015 – Mr. Ryan asked for each member to send a goal for the commission for 2015.
- ADA 25th Anniversary (July) – The commission discussed plans for a celebration of the 25th anniversary of the ADA in July.
- ADA Photo Contest – Celebrate the 25th anniversary of the signing of the historic Americans with Disabilities Act! Share your photos of the "ADA in Action"! Our photo contest is organized in five categories, just like the five titles of the ADA: Employment - Photos of people with disabilities working, State and Local Governments - Photos of people with disabilities participating in state or local government programs, services, or activities (public schools, transportation services, recreation programs, museums, voting, etc.; may also include photos showing good examples of accessible facilities), Public Accommodations - Photos of people with disabilities engaging in the marketplace (shopping, dining out, attending the theater, etc.; may also include photos showing good examples of accessible facilities), Telecommunications - Photos of people with disabilities using telecommunications systems, Miscellaneous - Anything

goes! Prizes: Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each of the five categories. 1st prize: \$50.00 Visa gift card, 2nd prize: \$25.00 Visa gift card, 3rd prize: "ADA25" Tee Shirt (adult size large). Rules of the contest: This is a contest of the Mid-Atlantic ADA Center; entrants must live, work, or go to school in the Mid-Atlantic region (the states of Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, or the District of Columbia). Photos must be in jpg, jpeg, or png format; maximum file size 80 MB. You can submit as many photos as you like, but each photo must be submitted separately. Photos must not have been awarded prizes in any other contest. You must agree to allow TransCen, Inc. and the Mid-Atlantic ADA Center to post your photo(s) to websites or use them on other promotional materials (posters, brochures, etc.). TransCen staff and Board members and their families are not eligible to enter. For more information visit http://adainfo.org/photo_contest.

- Speaker of the Month – Ms. Coryell agreed to speak for the month of February, however, due to time constraints, Ms. Coryell will present at a future meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS –

- The proclamation for Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month will be read by the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on March 10, 2015 at 9:05 a.m. Commission members are encouraged to attend.
- The Maryland Relay provides telecommunications equipment needed to independently make or receive phone calls through the Maryland Accessible Telecommunications (MAT) program. For more information please visit <http://doit.maryland.gov/mdrelay/Pages/Equipment.aspx>. The commission plans to invite the Maryland Relay to a future meeting to give a presentation.
- Ms. Bishop announced Recreation and Parks has received funding to provide scholarships for individuals of any age with Autism to participate in Adaptive Aquatics. Ms. Bishop reminded members the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act is coming up in July and the Commission should begin thinking of ways to acknowledge it and consider expenditures. The Special Olympics is seeking volunteers for the 2015 year.
- Under the theme of "Bringing Community Together," the Department of Aging and Human Services' Aging and Disability Resource Center/Maryland Access Point is sponsoring a movie day on Saturday, April 18, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will take place in Building 1, Room #133 of the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center, 44219 Airport Road, in California. The movie day is free and open to residents of all ages. To register to attend go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/family-movie-day-bringing-community-together-tickets-15834626795> or call 301-475-4200, ext. 1057. Two movies will be shown. Both are true stories focusing on non-fictional characters with disabilities who overcame obstacles and achieved their goals through hard work and determination. Representatives from the St. Mary's County Health Department's Resource Coordination Program, Pathways Incorporated, Southern Maryland Center for Independent Living, Hearing Professionals LLC and Southern Maryland Community Resources will be present to share information about programs and services available for individuals with disabilities and their families. Family Movie and Information Day also includes giveaways, snacks, and refreshments. "The hope is that this event will bring the community together for disability awareness and provide information about available services," said Monika Williams, Coordinator of the Aging and Disability Resource Center/Maryland Access Point. Special accommodations will be made to make ensure movie day is accessible to everyone.

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to contact Monika Williams by Friday, March 27, to allow for reasonable accommodations or auxiliary services to be made available. For more information about the event visit <http://www.stmarysmd.com/aging/>.

NEXT MEETING –

- March 19, 2015 in Commissioner’s Meeting Room of the Chesapeake Building at 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT –

- A motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 p.m. was made by Mr. Colvin and seconded by Ms. Blankenship, the motion passed.