

MEETING MINUTES
ST. MARY'S COUNTY COMMISSION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
THURSDAY – JULY 17, 2014
ROOM 14 POTOMAC BUILDING * LEONARDTOWN, MARYLAND

CALL TO ORDER – The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. (This is a recorded meeting)

ROLL CALL –Members present were:

Eric Colvin	Citizen Rep, Chair
Christina Bishop	Department of Recreation & Parks, ADA Coordinator
Joshua Brewster	Greenwell
Lois Coryell	St. Mary's County Library
Rebecca Kessler	Department of Aging & Human Services
Sherri St. Clair	Citizen Rep
Felton Rothwell	Citizen Rep
Lisa Berry	Pathways, Inc.
Jodi Campo & Denise Sulerzyski	Resource Coordination
Lea Arnold for Mary Ann Blankenship	Department of Public Works & Transportation
Tanar Scriber for Michelle Tilman	Bay CSS

Other attendees present were:

Amber Hebert	Department of Aging & Human Services
Bonnie Elward	Southern Maryland Community Resources
Joanna Colvin	Citizen

Cynthia Brown, David Ryan, Sandra Dent, Melissa Seigman, Sarah Schaefer, Sarah Vahle, Carole Woodward, Crystal Frederick, and Tomica Scriber were excused.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Motion to approve the June 19, 2014 minutes as written, the motion passed.

BUDGET REPORT –

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

ADA COORDINATOR REPORT –

- Ms. Bishop stated the New Horizons Summer Fun Camp was successful this year. New Horizons is a six-week summer camp program for children with various disabilities, provided in partnership with St. Mary's County Public Schools. Activities may include arts and crafts, music, swimming, and exercise, field trips and much more. Camp is an approved respite care provider and has full time nursing staff on duty, allowing for medication disbursement, non-delegated nursing duties and emergency care on the spot.

DISCUSSION OF OLD BUSINESS –

- The awards ceremony is scheduled on the Board of County Commissioners agenda July 22, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. Awards will be given for Volunteer of the Year, the Vicki Brown Award, Care Partner, and Innovative Program Award.
- The commission will hold an informal work group session to discuss the ADA Coordinator position and letter the Commissioners of St. Mary's County on August 23, 2014, 1:00 p.m. at the Leonardtown Library, Leonardtown, Maryland.

DISCUSSION OF NEW BUSINESS –

- Mr. Brewster provided an overview of the Greenwell Foundation and services offered to the public. The Greenwell Foundation's programs are specifically designed to ensure that people with all types of disabilities are able to participate without focusing on the person's disability.

Camp Greenwell - Camp Greenwell is an outdoor inclusive day camp for all children. Inclusion means all participate and all belong. Camp is located in Greenwell State Park, a perfect waterfront environment for hiking, kayaking, and exploration. Camp Greenwell offers archery, kayaking, water activities, hiking and plenty of free time to explore and create, and make new friends. There are air-conditioned clubhouses for breaks from the heat. **Nature Time Camp** - This camp is for children ages 4 years old (at time camp begins) and 5 years old who have not yet attended kindergarten. Each session is limited to 10 campers. Based on Greenwell's Nature Time program, your child can enjoy outdoor fun with Nature Time Camp! Each session is four hours per day, three days a week. Nature Time Camp is housed at Greenwell's air-conditioned Nature Center. From there campers will embark on outdoor adventures and discover their natural world through games, crafts, short hikes, exploration and more. This camp runs from 10am-2pm. Extended care is not available for this camp. **Horse Camp** - All riders choose a horse camp convenient to their schedule and Greenwell will be differentiating the instruction. Riders will be given challenges whether they have never ridden a horse at all or have some experience. Campers will ride once per day with a qualified riding instructor. Riding lessons will occur in the mornings. We have shady inside-the-barn activities during the afternoon heat. Horsemanship is emphasized by allowing campers to saddle their own horses, helping care for them, and learning all about horse health. First time riders will be taught safety, comfort in the saddle and control of the horse. Riders who can control their horse independently, and are able to walk, trot, and canter will be challenged with pre-jumping skills, some gymnastic exercises, simple lead changes and leg yielding. Various horse disciplines will be explored and of course, we will make horse arts and crafts. We will also make opportunities available to go hiking and explore nature at horse camp. **Fishing and Fishing Kayak Camp** - Fishing Camp teaches fishing skills, responsible catch and release, and crabbing. Campers who already enjoy fishing will join those who have never fished in enjoying the beautiful Patuxent River. Campers will attempt to find the "sweet spots" along Greenwell's shores for fishing and learn the "ins and outs" of fishing. We are looking for a few good fishermen and enthusiasts to join us for some summer fun. Kayak fishing camp, campers will have the unique opportunity to fish from kayaks. **Adventure Camp** - Campers will explore their environment on land and water. They will learn camping skills such as building a shelter, building a campfire and compassing. Camp also includes beginner kayak instruction with stroke improvement, safety instruction and how to navigate on a trip. We will also make opportunities available to go hiking and explore nature. On Thursday of this camp

(Wednesday for the Week 3 session), Adventure Camp has an extended day until 9pm. Campers will have pizza for dinner, take a moonlight kayak trip, and enjoy a campfire. **Early Intervention Equine Program** - The Greenwell Foundation's Early Intervention Equine Program is designed for young children ages 3-7 with disabilities. Horses are used to help children gain confidence, learn trust, and discover their senses. Children will learn how to care for a horse and understand the horse's body and feelings. This program runs concurrently with our riding lesson program. It is offered during the day on Monday and Friday and two evenings a week on Tuesday and Wednesday. **Nature Time** - Enjoy the wonders of nature at Greenwell State Park through games, crafts, stories, movement, and exploration. Nature Time is a program for children and their families/caregivers. Recreation, education, and conservation all play a part in the activities. **River Riders Kayaking** - River Riders is an accessible and inclusive kayaking program providing instructional and recreational opportunities in Southern Maryland. River Riders offers kayaking at its summer camps, as well as kayak outings and events for organizations for people with disabilities, and for scouting and veterans groups. Lessons are offered through the College of Southern Maryland. All camp sessions and lessons are taught by ACA-certified instructors. Greenwell has a wheelchair-accessible floating kayak and canoe launch, open to the public during regular park hours (sunrise to sunset). River Riders is in session from April through October. **Veteran's Programs** - The Greenwell Foundation offers veterans opportunities to participate in its inclusive and accessible programs including Horseback Riding, River Riders Kayaking, Vets Helping Vets, and Operation Warrior Refuge, as well as Vacations for Vets. All of these activities have therapeutic value for our nation's recovering servicemen and women. For more information, please visit <http://greenwellfoundation.org/>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS –

- The commission's annual brunch will be held on August 10, 2014 from 11-1 at Ms. St. Clair's home in Avenue, Maryland.
- Helpful Hooves will have a prom and formal dinner dance for Special Friends on July 25, 2014 in Avenue, Maryland.
- Ms. Bishop announced that 10 scholarships were awarded from Autism Speaks in the area of aquatics.
- Ms. Elward stated that Southern Maryland Community Resources celebrated their 1 year anniversary. For more information, please visit <http://somdcr.org/>.

NEXT MEETING –

- September 18, 2014 in Room 14 of the Potomac Building at 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT –

- Ms. St. Clair made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 p.m. and Mr. Rothwell seconded, the motion passed.