



**Commission for People with Disabilities (CFPD)
October 16, 2012
Room 14 Governmental Center/Potomac Building
Minutes**

Attendees: Christi Bishop, Cynthia Brown, Sam Brown, Linda Clem, Pamala Emplit, Susan Erichsen, Jim Krumke, Patrice Roberts, and Janet Smith.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Susan Erichsen.

Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 4:10 by Christi Bishop. September minutes were not available and will be voted on at the November meeting.

ADA Coordinator Report: Christi Bishop reminded all that October is Disability Employment Awareness Month. She reported the following September 2012 disability employment stats: 21.9% of people with disabilities are employed compared to 69.3% of people without disabilities; the unemployment rate of persons with disabilities is 13.5% versus 7.3% of persons without disabilities. Christi is working on selling ads to update the Disability Etiquette Book and asked members to please make a purchase.

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ADA Anniversary: Susan Erichsen lead the debriefing. All agreed the event went well but the weather remains a concern since it's held outdoors. It was unseasonably warm on the day of the luncheon. Plans will be made to hold the event inside next time, perhaps at the College of Southern Maryland. The Anniversary Luncheon replaced the High Hopes kite flying activity as an awareness event. The Commission agreed to have a retreat in January to re-evaluate all events and activities for the upcoming year.

Holiday Party: The event is scheduled for December 14 at the Loffler Center. There was considerable discussion about whether or not to keep this event exclusively for people with disabilities or if it should include the general public. It was agreed to keep it exclusive due to cost, however, the Commission will discuss inclusion efforts at the January retreat. The event is from 6--8PM and set up begins at 4PM. Support is needed from as many members as possible.

Upcoming meetings: Due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, the next meeting will be held November 13 and the December meeting will be on December 11. Time and location remain the same. At the November meeting, members are asked to bring in giveaways for the Holiday Party. Press releases need to be signed by all attending the event for public relations purposes. Budget matters will also be discussed at the November meeting, as well as membership. Commission members may need to recruit new members. Representation is needed from individuals with disabilities. The County Commissioners need names for all perspective members by the end of November.

Announcements: Christi reported the recent Paralympic event was very successful with about 50 people attending (participants and spectators). The demonstrations were impressive and she anticipates this activity to grow in popularity within the county.

Jim Krumke announced the Southern Maryland Center for Independent Living's recent open house had close to 250 people in attendance. People On The Go, a self-advocacy group, started a Southern Maryland Chapter about 3 weeks ago.

Next Meeting: *The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.*

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Cynthia Brown