

COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

February 3, 2005

Southern Maryland Higher Education Center
Building #2, Room #120

Minutes

Attendants: Christi Bishop
Jackie Fournier
Pam Main
Paula Marcos
Pat O'Connor
Dennis Phillips
Cindy Phillips
Gene Potts
Arthur Shepherd
Margaret Stewart
Cathy Zumbrun

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Co-Chairperson, Arthur Shepherd.

The November minutes were accepted as presented.

Arthur Shepherd introduced staff members from the Department of Recreation, Parks and Community Services, which included Christi Bishop, Therapeutic Recreation Specialist, and Donna Garner, Senior Office Specialist. Christi is coordinating Disability Awareness Day along with Paula Marcos. Also introduced were Alan Brody and Cathy Zumbrun. Alan Brody is doing an article about handicap accessibility for the Maryland Independent. Cathy Zumbrun is a representative from Pathways.

Arthur initiated the following sub-committees:

- Education – Gene Potts and Pat O'Connor
- Employment – Dennis Phillips and Julie Randall
- Membership/Awareness – Arthur Shepherd and Paula Marcos
- Community – Cindy Phillips and Jackie Fournier
- Healthcare – Margaret Stewart and Pam Main

The sub-committees should present immediate and future goals at the next meeting. Arthur asked members to please carbon copy any e-mails to him regarding these sub-committees.

Letters were sent on January 24, 2005, to agencies requesting participation in Disability Awareness Day, March 12, 2005. Paula Marcos and Christi Bishop need volunteers for activities. Advertisement for the event needs to be on the county website, channel 12, and media releases.

Pat O'Connor and Gene Potts will be reporting on curb cuts at the next meeting.

Jackie Fournier announced that the St. Mary's Transit System (STS) started a new southern route to accommodate more county residents. Also, STS is hiring part-time and full-time bus drivers. Applicants need to have a CDL with passenger endorsement. Paula Marcos announced that the Health Department is hiring Resource Coordinators. Christi Bishop needs volunteers for the Easter Egg Hunt & Festival. Arthur Shepherd announced that Recreation, Parks and Community Services will be opening the new Chaptico Park on March 1, 2005. The park is located on Route 234 between Chaptico and Wicomico Shores. Cindy Phillips announced that the Housing Authority sent 60 letters to seniors for vouchers.

The next meeting will be held again at the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center on Thursday, February 24, 2005, at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.