

GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS MINUTES January 18, 2011

The Governor's Advisory Council held a meeting on January 18th, 2011 at 660 North 4th Street in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. GACDA Chairperson, Donna S. Breaux, presided.

Attendees:

Michele Beck
Wayne Blackwell
Donna Breaux
Jan Chiles
Willard Hamilton
Margaret Hill
Brandon Jones
Steve Kaufmann
Julie Nesbit
Rep. Scott Simon
Kay Rone Wilson

Absent:

Yvonne Bell
Laura Brackin
Benjamin Cornwell
Kevin Hill
David Gill
Carol Lirette
Michelle Nailor-Octave
Mike Watts

Guests in attendance:

Jennifer Bollinger
SILC Director
Brandon Burris
GODA Executive Director
Joey Cooper
GODA Assistant Director
Jamar Ennis
GODA Program Manager

Quorum was **NOT** present

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

GACDA Chairperson, Donna Breaux, called the meeting to order at 10:08AM.

Public Comments

No public comments were made.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The approval of the September minutes has been tabled since a quorum was not present.

GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Chairperson Breaux thanked everyone for attending and thought it would be a great idea to work in small groups. Glad that the Council is participating in the Inclusive Art Show competition. Chairperson Breaux Believes that the Council should decide on what to do with the art. She also said the GOLD Awards was an excellent ceremony, proud of the community support and encourages everyone to participate in 2011.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ON DISABILITY AFFAIRS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

New Members training was planned for today's meeting, but last minutes circumstances drove their absence. New members include Pam Allen, Keisha Thomas, Veronica Mosgrove, and Senator Yvonne Dorsey ...

Leaa Tiechman resigned since our last meeting, and GODA now has a staff of three. Executive Brandon Burris will seek further direction in regards to staffing. He met with members of DOA regarding incorporating GODA and ADA concerns. Nichols State University planned to do some type of corrective action initiative. They wanted GODA to create a handbook to resolve concerns. DOA wanted to meet with GACDA to find out how to get involved with resolving their accessibility concerns. They will be invited to the next GACDA meeting to evaluate their ideas.

GACDA Initiates updates:

Brandon stated that GODA is finding ways to promote what GACDA does to the public. **ACTION** GODA will begin to do an "E-alert" to its 500 member distribution list. Brandon emphasized that GODA wants to create things with value.

Steve Kaufman asked, "How will people sign up? What about the vast majority of persons with disabilities in our state who are not connected." Brandon said, "That is a problem every entity faces as things gear more towards technology." GODA has a

great distribution list and will send information out to organizations connected to the community.

Kaufman stated that things are becoming more electronically advanced, and a possible suggestion is that he wants information to be re-produced and sent out to as many people as possible. Maybe post on bulletin boards such as ILP, Council's on Ageing, legislative assistant's email.

Inclusive Art Show:

DD Council created the art show around 6 years ago, but their funding went dry so GODA was asked to take it over. The Art Show will be on 23rd of February at the State Archives Buildings off Essen Lane.

ACTION Donna Breaux suggests that the winners contact information and cities to schedule tours in their respect areas. She also wants to begin work for NEXT school year, so art teachers can make their lesson plans to fit the Inclusive Art Show. Steve Kaufmann suggests writing a Press Release template to prepare for any inquires into who won.

Members in attendance were asked to judge the art work that was presented in the room. Criteria and logistics were done by Jamar Ennis, Program Coordinator, and Brandon Burris stated that if any member has questions to direct then to him for the art show.

ADA Symposium

ADA Symposium GACDA committee presented a "Letter of Intent" and concerns over the coverage of the ADA material. It will be a one day event. GODA will be working with other organizations to make the symposium successful.

ANNOUNCEMENT/ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

A Metasoft presentation will be tabled to next meeting. Executive Director Burris thanked everyone for anticipating and attending the Council meeting.

Chairperson, Donna Breaux, announced the next meeting would take place on April 12, 2011. The meeting was adjourned by GACDA Chairperson, Donna Breaux, at approximately 11:30PM.