

MINUTES
Senior & Disabled Services
Advocacy Committee
1015 Willamette St; Eugene, OR 97401

October 8, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Baxter, filling in as Chair; Dennis Shine, Robert Fritson, Jessica Harris, Janet O'Bryant, Rosemary Foster

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Jim Patterson, Chair; Ed Necker, Diane Rogers, Donna Peterson, and Kathy Jenness

Guest: Emily Jameson

STAFF: Kay Metzger

1. Call to Order / Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 2:23 p.m.

2. Consideration of Meeting Agenda

Robert F. asked that the item be added regarding his actions on the Trillium/LIPA DME Committee. Item will be included under Other Business. Additionally, the Guest Presentation will be moved up to item #3. Agenda accepted with changes.

3. Guest Presentation/Discussion:

Getting Our Message Across: Emily Jameson

Emily described the partnership agreement between CareOregon and the Center for Christian Values. She explained the intent is to capture digital interviews with people impacted by social services and share them in various public venues. These vignettes will be used for education and advocacy purposes. The perspective will not be from a religious viewpoint but will be focusing on health care needs of society, in particular seniors and people with disabilities. She is looking for people to interview. She has several good leads.

Committee members asked several questions to clarify the intended use of the videos and the forums in which they will be shown. Dennis Shine suggested she connect with Kathy Jenness regarding her experiences. The presentation concluded with recognition that we may have some common issues and an interest in connecting during the Legislative Session on those issues. Members thanked Emily for her presentation.

4. Consideration of the minutes of the September meeting

Motion: Robert Fritson moved the minutes be approved. Dennis Shine seconded the motion. Motion passed.

5. Committee Business/Updates

A. Roundabout Update

1) Update on DMV Manual

Robert Fritson reported on his work with ODOT to update the DMV manual. Initially he had difficulty getting ODOT staff to talk with him, as they did not recognize him as their point of contact (as members will recall, Jim Patterson had signed the letter sent last month as Advocacy Chair). Once he finally worked through the red tape, he was informed the DMV manual will include updates on roundabouts but may or may not include mention of Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons, as these are not officially recognized by the Feds at this time.

Rosemary Foster reported that she spoke with Rep. Terry Beyer who stated the City of Springfield will begin installation of RRFBs on October 13th, to be completed by November 30th.

Dennis Shine reported he also spoke with Rep. Terry Beyer at an event and she confirmed the RRFBs must be in place before EmX is functional. Dennis offered to facilitate a discussion between Robert F. and Terry Beyer regarding the DMV manual update process.

2) Report out on Study by Members

a) Dennis Shine reminded the group of the treacherous stretch on Main Street in Springfield where 9 people have been hit. This area is under ODOT's jurisdiction. They are considering the installation of pedestrian activated devices. There will be an open house at Thurston High School on Tuesday October 19th from 5:00-7:00 pm.

Tim Baxter asked if there is an advocacy group working this issue already? Committee members seemed to believe there was an existing committee studying and addressing this issue. There is a website: www.springfieldmainstreet.org. (Note: Kay will have copies of the website information available at the November Advocacy Committee meeting).

Rosemary Foster volunteered to attend the open house, as she lives in the area. Dennis will also attempt to attend if he is available.

b) Kay brought the attention of the committee to a location at Bob Straub Parkway and Mount Vernon. The City of Springfield is

currently working with ODOT towards some form of pedestrian crossing device to assure safety. More research needed on this location, i.e. is it in any vicinity that seniors or people with disabilities would need to cross?

c) Tim Baxter proposed a draft letter to send to common housing locations for seniors and people with disabilities. The Committee approved sending of the letter, intended as a letter of inquiry to gather more information regarding potential hazardous crossings. Jim Patterson will be contacted to sign as Chair. Robert Fritson volunteered to be the contact person.

B. Working with Legislators

Kay suggested the Committee review the list of Legislators after the election and begin making visits prior to the beginning of the 2011 Session. Committee members agreed.

C. Other Business and Announcements

Robert Fritson reported on his work with the Trillium/LIPA DME Committee and how he voted on certain issues. Commendations were given to Robert for good work as an excellent representative of the DSAC.

5. Date for next meeting: November 12, 2010; 2:15 p.m.

6. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.