

## DISABILITY SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

### MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 4, 2015

**DSAC Members Present:** Mike Volpe, Chair; Suzanne Brean, Vice Chair, Terry Brown, Edythe James and Rusty Burton.

**Guests** Catherine Skiens, Mitzi Naucler, Margaret Wells, Jan Molnar-Fitzgerald, Teri Jefferson, Curtis Miller, Jim Smith and Lindsey Oeder.

**Members Absent:** Sherry Rocha, Lee Lazaro, Jann Glenn, Pete Rickey and Mark Frederic.

**Staff:** Lisa Bennett, Carrie Corson, Terri Sharpe and Marci Howard.

- 1) Mike Volpe called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm. Introductions were made including guests.
- 2) Approval of Minutes:
  - **ACTION: Suzanne Brean moved to approve the June 2, 2015 DSAC minutes as written. Rusty Burton seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
- 3) Benton County ADA 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event and Keith E. Billings Award (Jim Smith, Access Benton County):
  - Lisa introduced Jim Smith who has been with Access Benton County for 30 years. Jim was a speaker at the ADA 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event held in Corvallis that was put on by DSAC member Lee Lazaro. Lee asked Jim to come speak to the Councils in regards to the event.
  - Jim shared that the Board of Commissioners for Benton County presented a Proclamation at the July 26 birthday party for ADA. Two of the Commissioners were present at the ceremony. There were several speakers that included Martha Smith, Director of the Oregon State University Disability Access Services; Dr. Dick Weinman, OSU Professor Emeritus; Mike Volpe, Disability Services Advisory Council Chair; Jasper Smith, Manager of Benton County Health Department with Disabilities and Steve Carter, Director of Benton County Dial Bus.
  - Jim gave a brief history of Access Benton County (ABC). ABC started out as a club called Oregon Architectural Barriers Council Corvallis Chapter and changed its name to Access Benton County when they were the last Chapter left in the State of Oregon. Anyone, regardless of where they live, is welcome to join them.

- At the ceremony for ADA, Access Benton County presented the Keith E. Billings Award; an award for excellence in accessibility. The Award for 2014 went to the Kiwanis Club of Corvallis for their Grab Bar Installation Program. The Program started in 1999 by Brian Egan and has served over 3000 individuals that have had grab bars installed in their homes. This has been done all through donations and anyone who requires a grab bar, regardless of income, is eligible.
- Keith, of the Keith's Award, was the Facilities Manager for the City of Corvallis who was responsible for accessibility and improvements in all of the buildings owned by the city. This is the 11<sup>th</sup> time Access Benton County has presented the Award. Jim asked for nominations for 2015. The phone number for Access Benton County is on the brochure (included in the agenda packet) along with their P.O. Box address.
- Jim announced that ABC meets bimonthly and their next meeting is taking place on August 20<sup>th</sup>. They have a Christmas luncheon and would be delighted to have anyone join them.
- Lisa added that she has attended some of the Access Benton County meetings and they are a small and welcoming environment.

#### 4) Chair's Report (Mike Volpe):

- Mike provided a brief history of the ADA to the DSAC Council along with an overview of the events he attended in honor of the ADA's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The grandfather of the ADA, Justin Dart, a victim of polio, went from coast to coast covering all 50 states fighting for the rights of people with disabilities. This fight started as early as the 1960s but it wasn't until July 26, 1990 that President George H.W. Bush passed the ADA through Congress. Mike feels there is still more work to be done on spreading the awareness of the ADA.
- One of the events Mike attended was the Council of Governments (COG) Full Board meeting where the Board was presented with a Proclamation of the ADA, recommitting the values of people with disabilities, that Mike helped draft. The Board signed the Proclamation and took it a step further asking staff to draft a letter to send out to the Members' jurisdiction in order to increase the knowledge and awareness of the ADA in our cities and counties.
- Lisa reminded everyone of the email she sent out regarding a live stream event of the ADA celebration in D.C. The event was recorded so she encouraged anyone that did not see it to watch the recording. It gave a lot of history and was full of interesting and entertaining information.
- Mike shared how Corvallis is still making ADA improvements downtown. They painted the ramps so they are more visible and they are coming up with more parking spaces. Rusty shared that the Mayor of Lebanon was working on getting a parking lot paved to be more accessible to the disabled. Lisa shared that Lincoln City is also making a lot of road and sidewalk ADA improvements.

**5) Round Table:**

- Terry shared that the Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America is participating in the BBQ and car show on August 15<sup>th</sup> at the Veteran's Home in Lebanon.
- Rusty shared that Fox Network will be hosting the first Republican Presidential Debate on Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Curtis found attending today's Advisory Council meetings to be very educating.
- Jim stated that it was a pleasure to be here.
- Mitzi commented that Access Benton County was a great program.
- Jan thanked the Councils for inviting her.
- Margaret noted that if the video camera was on the face of the person that was speaking it was much easier to hear the speaker.

**6) Adjournment:**

- The DSAC Meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm.
- The Meeting Minutes were recorded by Terri Sharpe.
- The next meeting will be on September 1, 2015 at the Veterans' Home in Lebanon.