

Suffolk County Disabilities Advisory Board

April 30, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Approved

A meeting of the Suffolk County Disabilities Advisory Board was held on April 30, 2014 in the Conference Room of Building 158, North County Complex, Hauppauge at 2:08 pm, Chairperson Roy Probeyahn presided.

PRESENT:

GROUP A

Marjorie E. Acevedo	Representing Presiding Officer Gregory's Office
Bill Seery	Representing Legislator William Spencer, MD
James Kokindo	Representing SC Human Rights Commission
Barbara Falkman	S.C. Dept. of Health Services/Div. Services for Children with Special Needs

GROUP B

Joseph Delgado	Member
Mike Stolz	Member

GROUP C

Carolyn Schick	Member
Teresa Strum	Member

GROUP D

Roy Probeyahn, Chairperson	Member
Douglas King	Member
Garrett Hulett	Member
Beverly Cody	Member
Sandy Silver	Member

GUESTS: Erin King, Robin Mayr, Maria Garcia

STAFF: Heidi Zeitler, Principal Clerk, Suffolk County Office for People with Disabilities

EXCUSED: Frank Krotschinsky, Esq., Valerie Lewis, Chris Chatterton, Clifford Hymowitz, Joani Madarash, Albert Rizzi, Tim Carew

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 26, 2014: Roy asked if there were any changes to be made to the minutes as distributed. There were none, Garrett made a motion to accept the minutes as distributed and Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: Roy said the regional office for OPWDD has been struggling with requests for new services under the "Front Door" initiative, which is a single point entry for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Roy is the parent coordinator for the Task Force on Aging Out and they are very concerned for the aging out class of 2014. Roy wrote a letter to the Transformation Agenda Committee about the backlog on Long Island. Roy later found out that the regional office will be adding 8 positions and most of the new hires will be assigned to the "Front Door" initiative.

Architectural Barriers - Lew was excused.

Community Partnership - Frank was excused.

Education - Teresa spoke briefly about the Common Core, which then led into a larger discussion.

508 ADA Compliance Committee – Albert was excused. Garrett said next meeting hasn't been scheduled yet.

Housing – Michelle was excused.

Legislation – Douglas had nothing new to report.

Transportation: Valerie was excused. Garrett said next Transportation meeting is scheduled for June 12th. Garrett met with Legislator Krupski last week and he is very interested in talking about some of the changes that need to be done. Legislator Schneiderman has put in a resolution to roll back the .25 increase on the East End, increase the bus fare to \$2.25 and raise the senior citizen/disabled fare from .75 to \$1.00.

Marjorie said the Capitol Budget hearings will be held on May 20th and May 21st.

Employment – Tim was excused.

COUNTY DEPARTMENTS:

Suffolk County Office for People with Disabilities - Frank was excused.

S.C.D.P.W./Division Transportation - Chris was excused.

S.C. Parks - Terry was excused.

S.C. Department of Social Services - Traci Barnes was excused.

S.C. Dept. of Health/Division of Children with Special Health Care Needs - Barbara had nothing new to report.

S.C. Human Rights Commission – James had nothing new to report.

S.C. Community Development - Vacant.

SILO – Joe reported that they will be starting a chapter from Alcoholics Anonymous at SILO in May. It will be held during the week and the time will probably be around 3:00 p.m. It will be specifically focused towards people with disabilities, especially people with mobility problems. Joe also reminded everyone that SILO helps people with benefit advisement.

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Acces-VR – Sandy reported that they achieved their goal, that more people in Suffolk County became successfully employed. They are collaborating with Dept. of Labor regarding the summer youth experience and they are also working with youthful offenders to help them with training and jobs. They are still re-stacking and de-stacking employees.

United Spinal Association – Kleo was absent.

Clubhouse of Suffolk/Suffolk County United Veterans/Mental Health Association of Suffolk – Mike spoke briefly about the homeless veterans on Long Island. They also received a grant through L.I. Community Foundation for veterans who are not homeless but are looking for services through the Veterans Crisis Respite and Diversion Program; they intervene on stress and behavioral health crisis. Services include housing with meals up to 7 days, social work and/or substance abuse services, peer support by other Veterans and mentoring support.

Suffolk County Rehabilitation Council - Joani was excused.

Old Business - None

New Business - Bill Seery announced they will be having the first Annual Transverse Myelitis Awareness Day on June 7th.

Transverse Myelitis is an auto-immune disorder with no known cause or cure. Right now Bill is trying to promote Awareness Day and asked for any suggestions on how to get this done. Joe said he could send the information over to SILO and they will post it on their website. Someone else suggested he get in contact with Sheri Einhorn from News 12 Long Island and also contact Angela from Able News.

Roy reported that Assemblyman Harvey Weisenberg announced that he will not be running for re-election. Harvey was a leading advocate for people with disabilities.

ADJOURNMENT: Garrett made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Doug seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m. **The next meeting will be held on May 28, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. in the Conference room, Building 158, Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge.**

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Zeitler