

Suffolk County Disabilities Advisory Board

February 24, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Approved

A meeting of the Suffolk County Disabilities Advisory Board was held on February 24, 2016 in the Large Conference Room of Building 158, North County Complex, Hauppauge at 2:00 pm with Chairperson Roy Probeyahn presiding.

PRESENT:

GROUP A

Frank Krotschinsky	Rep. County Executive Steven Bellone
Chris Chatterton	Representing SCDPW Transportation Division
Timothy Carew	S.C. Department of Labor
Barbara Falkman	S.C. Dept. of Health Services/Div. Services for Children with Special Needs
James Kokindo	S.C. Human Rights Commission
Robert Hardie	Rep. SC Dept. of Public Works, Design & Construction Division
Traci Barnes	Assistant Commissioner, Dept. of Social Services

GROUP B

Valerie Lewis	Member
Marian D. Reid	Member
Rep. Michelle Santantonio	

GROUP C

Teresa Strum	Member
Joani Madarash	Member
Joseph Delgado	Member

GROUP D

Roy Probeyahn, Chairperson	Member
Devin Fernandez	Member
Robin Mayr	Member
Sandy Silver	Member

GUESTS: Stephanie Baldwin

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

EXCUSED: Terry Maccarrone, Beverly Cody, Carolyn Schick, Douglas King

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF January 27, 2016: Roy asked if there were any changes to be made to the January 27, 2016 minutes as distributed. There were none, Robin made a motion to accept the minutes as distributed and Teresa seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: Roy reported the governor's budget amendments have been issued and it doesn't contain revenue for not for profits to be able to meet the minimum wage standard because he didn't put any money in the budget for it.

They are putting together a campaign to advocate for the legislature to do that but its \$130 million dollar item.

Roy just participated in a webinar for the implementation for FIDA, **Fully Integrated Duals Advantage** FIDA is a demonstration project that introduces a model of care, which integrates and coordinates Participant benefits and care across the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Call Centers Plan for FIDA Care Complete at 1-800-466-2745.

Roy also attended a webinar with a new assessment system that will be layered on top of the Front Door evaluation called CAS.

Roy also participates on IDD Committee of the Community Board under the Auspice of Division Mental Health and announced that the Director Art Flescher has just retired and a replacement has not been named.

Architectural Barriers - Bob had nothing new to report. There was a discussion about county beaches and accessibility.

Community Partnership – Frank participated in one of a series of information sessions for people that are required to raise their homes due to Sandy storm damage. There are a lot of problems facing people with disabilities that have to raise their homes and there are also issues with Universal Design. There are modifications that FEMA will pay for and others that FEMA won't pay for. FEMA has been sponsoring a series information sessions and Frank is trying to help set one up here in Suffolk.

Education - Teresa had nothing new to report.

508 ADA Compliance Committee - Valerie emailed her report and also handed out copies at the meeting as well. Valerie reported that they combined the Section 508 Committee with Transportation Committee because a lot of the same conversation was being had in both committees. They have renamed the committee, the Technology and Transportation Sub Committee. A lot of issues were discussed and they had a Rep. from DPW, Bill Hillman and they focused on the inaccessibility of Suffolk County. Sidewalks, bus shelters and how it's

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difficult for people with disabilities to get around in the winter when sidewalks aren't shoveled. In that regard the reality is those issues will never be addressed because the money and man power isn't there. They have a new ADA Transition plan which will address some of paving issues with county roads which will then address curb cut issues on county roads. There was a lengthy discussion between Gary Lenberger, Director of DPW Transportation and Suffolk County, IT Dept. people on how to get real time information out to people with disabilities.

Housing - Marion spoke about access problems with fixed route bus stops and how bus and trains schedules don't coincide.

Marion said they have received two allegations in the past 2 months of people transitioning from nursing homes into apartments and one obstacle they face is the wait time for financial help so it becomes a financial problem for the landlord to hold the apartment.

In 2015 L.I. Housing Services received 141 allegations of which 26 were related to people with disability that needed a reasonable accommodation, modification and 21 of those requests were granted.

Legislation - Douglas was excused.

Employment - Tim reported that he attended the Town Connection Job Expo at SUNY Farmingdale and about 400 people attended. A lot of information was available from Social Security, Ticket to Work and Benefits planning. There will also be a Transition Summit held on March 11, 2016, "ACCES" Your Way to Success: Collaborating to Link Students to the World of Work at Farmingdale State University.

COUNTY DEPARTMENTS:

Suffolk County Office for People with Disabilities – Frank submitted the County Executives nominations for Group D and the policy in the past has been if you are being reappointed you don't need to appear before the legislature. The earliest it will be brought before the Committee is April 5, 2016.

Frank Spoke to Michael Godino who is planning a symposium on audible traffic light issues. Frank will be working on it with him and Nassau County too. This will be a great networking opportunity.

Robin asked Frank if he could please email everyone the statutes again. Frank said he would.

S.C.D.P.W./Division Transportation – Chris had nothing new to report.

Devin voiced his frustration that SCAT clients still haven't been informed about ¾ mile and Sunday service.

Joe said when Sunday SCAT service was announced there was a big deal made in the headlines but SCAT members were never informed and he doesn't understand why.

Valerie feels as a board we should be making two recommendations per year.

S.C. Parks - Terry was excused.

S.C. Department of Social Services - Traci had nothing new to report.

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 had nothing new to report.

ACCES-VR - Sandy said they aren't sure where their office will be relocated to during the renovations.

Sandy found out about a program which was approved by the board of Proprietor School Services (PSS), which is a proprietor school and they put forth a proposal for transitioning youth. Sandy just got approval this morning to begin the process of funding a PPS Program in Copiague and it's called the All Trades Program which is a basic introduction to the trades. Once they complete the program they will be involved one of the Habitat for Humanity construction and will use the skills they learned. They are looking to get donations from Home improvement stores for the kids to receive a new tool.

Suffolk County Rehabilitation Council - Joani had nothing new to report.

Old Business - None

New Business - None

ADJOURNMENT: Robin made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Valerie seconded the motion. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m. **The next meeting will be held on at 2:00 p.m. in the Conference room, Building 158, Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge.**

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Zeitler