

MINUTES
ADVISORY BOARD FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES
JUNE 13, 2023

Members Present: Michelle Bitter-Oakley
Ellyn Drotzer
Roslyn Greenberg
Mona Malbranche
Janine Young

Members Absent: Toby Gordon, Chair
Elizabeth Espinoza
Linda Fishkin
Mary Hudson
Jorge Ibacache
Michelle Jones
John Neff
Tracy Stafford

Also Present: Kristen McIntosh, Assistant County Attorney
Carol L. Powell-Phillips, Professional Standards/Human Rights Section
Karen Hames, Real Time Reporter

A meeting of the Advisory Board for Individuals with Disabilities (ABID) was held on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 12:43 p.m., in Room 427 of the Broward County Governmental Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Following the Roll Call by Ms. Powell-Phillips, a quorum was established. Ms. Powell-Phillips noted that Mary Kinirons had resigned from this Board. In the absence of Chair Gordon, Ms. Drotzer called the meeting to order.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Ms. Malbranche made a motion to adopt this agenda. Ms. Greenberg seconded. Without objection, the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

3. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES (May 18, 2023)

Ms. Malbranche made a motion to approve the minutes from May 18, 2023. Ms. Young seconded. Without objection, the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. REVIEW OF THE 2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Ms. Powell-Phillips provided a copy of the combined 2022-2023 Annual Report and recommendations to the ABID members. Ms. Bitter-Oakley read the report summary aloud. Ms. Powell-Phillips stated that she will provide historic Annual Reports for ABID members to review. The members discussed the timeline for the report submission.

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

(None.)

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Emergency Management

Ms. Drotzer read the recommendations and responses. Ms. Powell-Phillips mentioned that Mary Kinirons, Chair of the Emergency Management subcommittee, had previously resigned from this Board and as Chair of the subcommittee. Ms. Drotzer recommended accepting the answers without further response at this time.

Ms. Drotzer requested that the County Attorney's Office review questions from this committee which reference statute, code, or ordinance. Assistant County Attorney McIntosh agreed.

After much discussion, the ABID members agreed to accept the responses for Items 1-8, "as is".

Referring to Recommendation #5, Ms. Drotzer expressed interest in providing emergency supply kits to the vulnerable population. This item was tabled until after the EOC can give a presentation or until ABID can conduct a resource inventory of all the municipalities and the programs that they have. Ms. Drotzer noted that this recommendation will be submitted "as is" and reevaluated in 2024.

Referring to Recommendation #8, Ms. Drotzer spoke on the benefit of inviting FPL to a meeting to explain their emergency process and priorities as it pertains to residents with special needs including electric medically necessary equipment.

b. Transportation

Ms. Drotzer read the recommendations and responses. Item responses accepted “as is” included wheelchair ramps, pre-trip inspections, and bus automation volume. The ABID members agreed to make suggestions on final responses on certain items listed below in order to get the final report to the County Commission and get started on the next report.

Referring to Recommendation #3, Ms. Drotzer noted a future technology solution that would allow bus riders to report issues in real time.

Referring to Recommendation #4, Ms. Drotzer explained that the ABID members strongly recommend increasing the arrival time from 5 minutes to 15 minutes early on the website and all collateral documentation.

Referring to Recommendation #5, Ms. Greenberg confirmed that there is an issue for those with hearing impairment regarding the MDT and CAD/AVL systems. ABID strongly recommends a solution to the conflict between the two sound systems and also random quality control checks.

c. Education and Awareness

(No discussion at this time)

d. Planning

(No Recommendations at this time.)

e. Legislation

(No Recommendations at this time.)

f. Employment

(No discussion at this time)

A motion was made by Ms. Greenberg to adopt the 2022-2023 Annual Report and Recommendations with noted edits and move it forward to the Broward County Commission. Ms. Malbranche seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

7. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

(None.)

8. NON-AGENDA/PUBLIC COMMENT/REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Powell-Phillips recommended that the timeline for the Annual Report and yearly goals be established and documented at the September meeting.

Ms. Powell-Phillips noted that the next ABID meeting will be held in September, after the Commission's Summer Session. She reminded the Board that ethics training and the Transportation Subcommittee meeting will be held in July.

Ms. Powell-Phillips reviewed the subcommittees and made edits by request of the members.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Malbranche. Ms. Young seconded the motion. With no objection, this meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.