

**MINUTES**  
**ADVISORY BOARD FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**  
**March 21, 2024**

**Members Present:** Ellyn Drotzer, Chair (via CMT)  
Tracy Stafford, Vice-Chair  
Michelle Bitter-Oakley  
Rozlyn Greenberg (via CMT)  
June McCarthy (via CMT)  
Michelle Jones (via CMT)  
Mona Malbranche (via CMT)  
Janine Young (12:41 p.m.)  
David Feldman (via CMT 12:42 p.m.)  
John Neff (via CMT 1:17 p.m.)

**Members Absent:** Linda Fishkin

**Also Present:** Carol L. Powell-Phillips, Professional Standards/Human Rights Section  
Kristin McLaren, Broward County Attorney's Office (via CMT)  
Michael Rajner, Human Rights Board Chair  
Karen Pannell, Real Time Reporter

A meeting of the Advisory Board for Individuals with Disabilities (ABID) was held on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 12:34 p.m., in Room 302 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 present. Chair Drotzer was present online, but unable to speak. She requested that Vice-Chair Stafford conduct this meeting. Ms. Powell-Phillips introduced returning ABID member, June McCarthy, back to the Board. Ms. McCarthy thanked the Board and provided a brief background.

Ms. Powell-Phillips introduced Michael Rajner, the Human Rights Board Chairman to the ABID members noting he was in attendance today at the request of Vice-Chair Stafford. Mr. Rajner invited the Board to the Fair Housing Event being held on April 4, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Dania Beach. He spoke on ways this event could assist people that have disabilities.

Mr. Rajner explained that the Human Rights Board has several cases coming before it related to service animals and their accommodations in public areas, such as restaurants. He stated that the ABID members are welcome to educate and inform the Human Rights Board on issues that impact the community with disabilities.

Speaking on the topic of Jorge Ibacache returning to ABID, Mr. Rajner stated that a commissioner with a vacancy could reappoint Mr. Ibacache to the ABID. He recommended working with the Intergovernmental Affairs Office because they may be able to help with the reappointment of Mr. Ibacache.

## **2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Ms. Greenberg made a motion to adopt today's agenda. Ms. Young seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **3. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. Powell-Phillips gave a summary of the minutes from November 2023, December 2023, and January 2024.

- **November 16, 2023-** Ms. Powell-Phillips provided an update of the progress since the November 16, 2023, meeting regarding the 2022-2023 Annual Report and Recommendations. She stated that the County responses to the recommendations are being reviewed and will be resubmitted soon.

Ms. Greenberg made a motion to accept the minutes of November 16, 2023. Ms. Bitter-Oakley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- **December 14, 2023-** Ms. Greenberg made a motion to accept the minutes of December 14, 2023. Ms. Young seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- **January 18, 2024-** Ms. Greenberg made a motion to accept the minutes of January 18, 2024. Ms. Bitter-Oakley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. RE-ESTABLISH – SUBCOMMITTEES  
(CHAIR/MEMBERS/RESPONSIBILITIES/MEETING CALENDAR)**

Ms. Powell-Phillips mentioned that in previous meetings the ABID members had discussed whether all five subcommittees were still necessary. She noted that Mary Hudson and Elizabeth Espinoza have resigned in the last few months.

Ms. Powell-Phillips read from a brochure that explained the establishment, guidelines, function, goals, and purpose of this Advisory Board for Individuals with Disabilities. She named the five subcommittees that have previously been determined: Legislative, Emergency Management, Planning, Transportation and Employment/Education and Awareness. Ms. Powell-Phillips named the Chair and members currently listed under each subcommittee.

After much discussion regarding the subcommittees, Ms. Young made a motion to collapse the subcommittee structure so that all ABID members can discuss prioritized topics and find resolutions together. Ms. Bitter-Oakley seconded the motion. With only Mr. Neff opposing, the motion carried.

**5. ESTABLISH 2024 GOALS**

Ms. Young requested that invisible disability awareness becomes a goal for 2024.

Ms. Bitter-Oakley discussed the difficulty of filing a complaint through the Broward County website. She suggested the website be revised so it becomes more user-friendly.

Chair Drotzer stated that a main objective is to focus on the process of moving recommendations through the county's internal structure and gain Commission support. She indicated the need to map out the process and choosing one issue to pursue.

**Chair Drotzer made a motion that throughout the next three months the Board will map out a process for improving communication and implementation of the Council's recommendation related to Emergency Management. Ms. Malbranche seconded the motion. Without objection, the motion passed unanimously.**

**6. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS**

Vice-Chair Stanford acknowledged the biggest accomplishment from this Board was when the TOPS service began transporting kids across the Palm Beach County line.

**Ms. Greenberg made a motion for the Ethics Training Meeting to be held on July 18, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Bitter-Oakley seconded the motion. With no objection, the motion passed unanimously.**

**7. NON-AGENDA / PUBLIC COMMENT / REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The next regular ABID meeting date is scheduled on May 16, 2024, in Room 302 at 12:30 p.m.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Greenberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Malbranche seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.