

CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
Disabilities Action Team Sub-Committee (DAT)
March 17, 2015 Minutes

The Disabilities Action Team of the City of Mesa met on March 17th, 2015,
at 6:00pm at the Mesa City Plaza, 20 E. Main St. Ste. 170.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Cheryl Anderson, Chair
Denise Heap
Mark Tompert
Lu Ann Schmidt

MEMBERS ABSENT
Karen Frias-Long

STAFF PRESENT
Andrea Arenas
Lindsey Balinkie
Dennis Newburn

GUESTS
David Crummey

1. Call to Order.

Ms. Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2. Items from citizens present.

There were no citizens who requested to speak to DAT.

3. Approval of minutes from the February 10th, 2015 DAT meeting.

Mr. Tompert made a motion to approve the February 10th, 2015 DAT meeting minutes, Ms. Heap seconded the motion. The motion moved unanimously.

4. Hear, discuss and take action on presentation from community groups NEDCO (Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation) and R.A.I.L (Retail, Arts, Innovation & Livability).

Mr. Crummey, a representative of NEDCO and R.A.I.L., spoke about the City of Mesa Housing Department's Consolidated Plan. Mr. Crummey explained NEDCO and R.A.I.L.'s involvement in engaging the community during the consolidated planning process and reviewed the comments and suggestions offered by R.A.I.L. based on the draft 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. Comments represented a consensus from community stakeholders to support a quality, inclusive plan and make sure that the plan is implemented responsibly to leverage other funding for the community.

Ms. Heap made a motion to present R.A.I.L.'s letter regarding recommendations related to the Housing Department's Consolidated Plan to the HRAB board in order to endorse the letter at the next meeting. Mr. Tompert seconded the motion. The motion moved unanimously.

5. Hear, discuss and take action on housing guidelines in the FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan from the City of Mesa Housing Department.

Mr. Newburn, the Community Revitalization Coordinator from the City of Mesa Housing and Community Development Department, shared information about the Consolidated Plan's purpose and encouraged community members to provide input during the 30 day comment period ending Thursday, April 16th, 2015.

6. Hear, discuss and take action on planning for March 24th, 2015 town hall meeting to educate the community on mental health and substance abuse issues.

Ms. Anderson and Ms. Heap discussed the plans for the town hall event, the agenda, number of attendees expected and how to further promote the event.

7. Hear update and discuss the need for and feasibility of creating a Psychiatric Recovery Center in the East Valley.

Ms. Anderson requested that a representative from East Valley Fire Fighter Charities (EVFFC) attend a future meeting to share about the 3-year grant related to hiring a nurse practitioner which is saving money within Medicaid. Ms. Alicoate stated she has already invited someone from EVFFC to attend and will send a follow up invitation to the next subcommittee meeting. Ms. Heap and Mr. Tompert suggested bringing all stakeholders to the table to include them in the conversation about the creation of a recovery center.

8. Hear update and discuss ways to evaluate the adequacy of services and programs for people with disabilities and the implementation of ADA

Ms. Anderson stated that the committee is still awaiting the City Council's response to the inclusion and diversity report. Ms. Heap requested an update as to when the report will be addressed by council; Ms. Alicoate stated staff would get an update and relay information back to the board.

9. Scheduling of meetings, future agenda items, and general information.

- Next DAT meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21st, 2015 at 6:00pm.

- Future Agenda Items:

1. Invite East Valley Fire Fighters Charities representative to share about the 3-year grant related to hiring a nurse practitioner which is saving money within Medicaid and related statistics.
2. Receive periodic update from transportation services for people with disabilities including reviewing a quarterly report and annual report on East Valley Dial-A-Ride. (May)
3. Hear update, discuss and take action on periodic update from the Mesa City Court protocol for diverting defendants who have mental health issues, veterans, and/or are homeless.
4. Review and discuss successes and challenges of March 24th, 2015 town hall meeting to educate the community on mental health and substance abuse issues and discuss future planning of town hall events.
5. Receive update from police department in May.

10. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Submitted By:



Ruth Giese,
Diversity Program Administrator