

CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
Disabilities Action Team (DAT)
September 15, 2016 Minutes

The Disabilities Action Team of the City of Mesa met on September 15, 2016
at 5:45pm at the Mesa City Plaza, 20 E. Main St. Ste. 170.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Mark Tompert- Chair
Colleen Byron- Vice
Chair

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT
Bethany Freeland
Ruth Giese

GUESTS
Karam Gafsi
Cassie Sampson
Louis Wade

1. Call to Order.

Mr. Tompert called the meeting to order at 5:45PM.

2. Items from citizens present.*

There were no citizens who requested to speak to DAT.

3. Approval of minutes from the May 17, 2016 DAT meeting.

Dr. Byron made a motion to approve the May 17, 2016 meeting minutes. Mr. Tompert seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

4. Discuss and vote on the selection of the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair for the 2016-2017 Board year.

Mr. Tompert suggested that once the new Board members decided whether or not they wish to formally join the DAT, that this item be moved to next month's agenda.

5. Hear an update, discuss, and take action on the following items:

(5a) Organizing a meeting and presentation regarding individuals with mental health and substance abuse issues to the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Tompert stated that he would speak to Dr. Michael Franczak to see if he would like to assign another associate at Marc Community Resources to assist him with this. He also said that he would ask Mr. Bill McCallister if he would like to assist with this item. Mr. Tompert reminded the committee that there were three tasks associated with this item. The first being a presentation to the community that was held at Marc Community Resources the previous year, a second presentation to the business community, which is what the committee is working to schedule now with the Chamber. And lastly, a presentation to government entities, all regarding education about hiring individuals with mental health and substance abuse issues as viable members of their organizations. Dr. Byron stated that she would reach out to some of her contacts to see if she can procure an educator on this topic. Ms. Giese suggested that the committee consider inviting Mark Young of Mesa United Way to present to them on their new program that consists of teaching veteran's soft skills that can be used in any office environment. Ms. Sampson suggested that the committee also look into reaching out to leaders of the faith community in town. She stated that churches are businesses themselves and are often looking to hire office assistants. Ms. Giese informed the committee that the City has connections with a group called For Our City, which is a faith based organization and that she could reach out to them once the DAT is ready to make their presentation.

Disabilities Action Team Action Results

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6. Scheduling of meetings, future agenda items, announcements, and other general information.

(6a) The next DAT meeting will be held on Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 5:45pm.

7. Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 5:57pm.

Submitted By:



Ruth Giese,
Diversity Program Administrator