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Region I Disability Access Committee Meeting

May 12, 2020 • Minutes

Member Present: James Sigwarth, Anna Stamat, Jamie Phipps, Jeanne Helling, Lisa Curtain, Lisa Farley, Margee Woywood, Michelle Schmitt, Nancy Steffensmeier, Ron Axtell,

Members Absent: Anna Stamat

Others Present: Sue Larson, Clerical Support

1. **Call to Order:** Jamie Phipps called to order at 1:36 p.m. Roll was taken, and it was noted that a quorum was established.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion Margee Woywood, seconded Jim Sigwarth, to approve agenda as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. **Establish Quorum:** It was noted that a quorum was established.
4. **Action Item:** Approval of the minutes from the February 11, 2020, Region I Disability Access Committee meeting.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion Nancy Steffensmeier, seconded Margee Woywood, to approve agenda as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

6. **NDEAM in October and ideas**

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Discussed planning and brainstorming some ideas of what will take place in October. Nothing set in place yet. Location yet to be determined but will contact NICC Peosta to use their facility. Possibility of expanding on last year's video. Struggle to get employers to participate. Need to target employers who make an impact and talk with them about services to show them individually where they are working. Visit companies where workers are working. Try to increase attendance, what would be of interest to them?

Will need to have a contingency plan in place in case the COVID-19 virus continues into the fall. Think about doing a virtual presentation remotely. Possible YouTube video to share with employers. Zoom presentation for employers to ask questions. Have a local person presenting about his experience of working with clients. Words of encouragement to give this a shot to future employers. Make ourselves available to join staff meetings at local business to do a short presentation. Could cover the whole region, not just Dubuque.

Jamie will check with NICC on meeting room for October 6.

7. Summer transition programming

Discussed the Summer program/camp/job club for high school students. June 6 through the last week of July. The Transition Alliance Team in Des Moines assigned a person from each office to lead. Brandy Fitch is assigned from our office. Offices across the state are grouped together to provide programs for students. Dubuque and Davenport are assigned together. It was decided that our region would do something different every day the last week of July. Manufacturing is the theme this year. Mason City and Decorah are doing the State conference and a weekly two-day program for students (business tours, mock interviews, people come and talk about their job, etc.).

Ron Axtell shared that Regions 1, 2, & 7 have merged into the new 20 county Region. September 1, 2020 deadline to become compliant. Existing boards still functioning, but new board will be in place by January 2021. Some Regions chose not to merge. The RWDB/CEOs meet at the end of April and voted to retain current service providers until December 31, 2020 due to the mergers. In the Fall, they will have to decide on a new RFP for the new Region to begin January 1, 2021.

8. Next meeting ideas

Tuesday, June 9, 2020 @ 1:30 p.m. (Zoom)

October Disability Awareness Month

Summer Program Update

Regions 1, 2, & 7 Merger (Ron Axtell)

WINTAC-case management

9. Adjourn

Motion Ron Axtell, seconded Nancy Steffensmeier, to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Submitted by: Sue Larson, Keystone AEA