

Disability Access Committee, Region 2

Meeting date 2/25/2021

Present: Joe Weigel, Brian Warner, Sandra Leake, Lisa Vance, James Arvidson, Amy Markham

Not Present: Taylor Williams, Julie Kieger – but due to position changes

Meeting began as scheduled, 9:30a

- Call to order, Brian Warner
- Quorum established
- Agenda Reviewed, approved (JW, SL 2nd)
- Introduction of any members – not needed.
- Review of minutes from August 13, 2020

Action item: Determine additional members to be invited

- BW discussed that he had a conversation with VR Administrator David Mitchell regarding the possibility of local committees being absorbed by regional committees.
- Reviewed items we have done in the past – asked about topics we would like to steer meetings toward (BW)
 - ADA accessibility study for IowaWORKS
 - WINTEC
 - Do we need to revisit this again for new information since Covid?
- JW asked about other places we have completed accessibility studies; BW suggested making a list of places we would like to do or review if it has been done
 - NIACC (believed to be done maybe 3+ years ago, AM to look for)
 - NIACC in Charles City
 - Garner Education Center
 - Center One in Hampton
 - Decorah office
 - Unclear if this would be responsibility of Region 1 or Region 2 – BW to find out

Other business: Reviewed what each member has been doing/changing since last Covid update (JW)

- BW – continuing with virtual services as much as possible, able to meet face to face if requested or needed; continuing this through at least June 30th; unsure when staff will be back in the office but slowly returning. Currently 5 staff in the building most of the time (Brian, Amy, Sarah, Mike – new counselor – and Angie).
- LV – some good things from having to go virtual like learning zoom, has made things more accessible for students; able to work with students more this way with the option of zoom, phone, or face to face. Stated that NIACC may be in masks possibly until 2022.

- SL – following same guidelines as NIACC regarding masks and 50% capacity in class; HISED classes are hybrid; accessibility has increased, people are able to complete entirely online; online has also been a barrier for some due to not having the capability.
- JA – IWD continues to not be open to the public, but this will be changing on 3/8 with a press release possibly going out as early as next week; limited capacity, independent unemployment and job search, one on one meetings for unemployment by appointment only – will rotate through staff members for coverage.
- JW – still under restrictions but more face to face at this point, difficult to do things virtually; still not at full capacity at the training center in DSM however opening to a limited number of students; green light to do more tours etc., scheduling students to come in as full time students.

No additional new business

Next meeting scheduled for 4/1/2021 at 10am

Motion to adjourn, approved (LV, JW 2nd)

Meeting adjourned 9:51a