



CITY OF FLORISSANT

Disability Awareness Commission

January 19, 2022 @ 6:30 P.M. - **MINUTES**

Due to COVID-19 pandemic and by Order of the Governor of the State of the Missouri and by Order of the St. Louis County Executive, the Council meeting will be conducted remotely through a Zoom platform.

Attendees

Bill Schnarr, Chair
Quoran Brown-El
Constance Harge
Andrea Purnell
Mary Sullivan

Staff Attending

Carol O'Mara
Trisha Crow
Tracey Howe-Koch

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Bill Schnarr. Quoran moved to approved the May 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes. It was seconded by Andrea and approved unanimously.

Bill shared that there are several upcoming events in the metro St. Louis area for COVID testing and that St. Louis City is hosting a hat and coat drive. Please reach out to Bill if you have any questions.

Old Business:

- a. Collaborating with other departments – Bill has not been aware of any recent issues regarding communications. Please reach out to the CDBG office if you need to connect with a group.
- b. Bill still working on a service dog awareness powerpoint presentation. He will send it to the Commission and City lawyer for review before making it public. The goal of the presentation is to help educate citizens on the purpose of service animals and how to react to them.
- c. City Building Accessibility Evaluation – There are no updates at this time.
- d. Combatting Homelessness in Florissant – Bill met with Mayor Lowery. Most of the homeless population for Florissant is centered around Jamestown Mall. This is actually in St. Louis County and Florissant has little recourse. Bill shared that last November there were approximately 10 homeless people living there. Several of the people camping there are doing it by choice and do not want outside help. If you come across a person in need, reach out to Bill for assistance in accessing resources.

e. Interpreters at City events – Tracey compiled three bids for the City. She gave them to the City Clerk for review. The City did include some funding for interpreter services in the budget that recently passed. Tracey will keep the Commission updated on the final decision.

New Business:

a. Accessibility Award – This award was developed to recognize an individual or business that has gone above and beyond to assist people with disabilities. There have been two awarded to-date: Mattingly’s and to Mr. Behlmann. After discussion, it was decided that the Commission would elicit nominations from the community and from Commission members. Tracey will send the previous criteria to Bill for re-working before it is made public. The Commission will meet on February 16 at 6:30pm to further discuss the Award and how to best move forward.

b. Election of Officers - Bill motioned to nominate himself for another term as Chair. Andrea seconded the nomination. It passed unanimously.

Bill motioned to nominate Mary for Vice-Chair. It was seconded by Constance and it passed unanimously.

Bill motioned to table the vote for Secretary until the next meeting. Andrea seconded it and it passed unanimously.

Bill motioned to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Andrea and adjourned at 7:14pm.