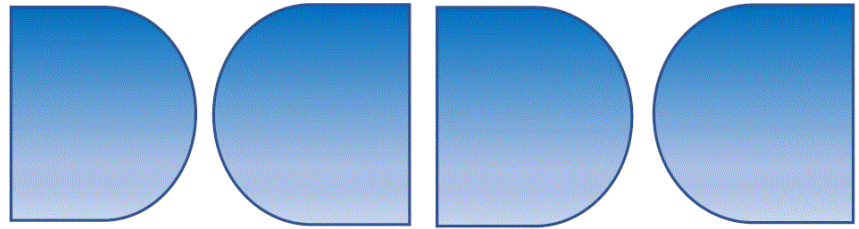




DUBUQUE COUNTY DISABILITIES COUNCIL



DCDC MEETING NOTES 10/10/23

Mission: To represent the perspectives of People with Disabilities to the Dubuque County Board of Supervisors and to actively seek change in policies and practices that create more opportunities and dismantle barriers for People with Disabilities in Dubuque County.

ATTENDANCE: Matt Kennedy, Samantha Berglin, Lori Anderson, Penny Ehlinger, Margee Woywood, Suellyn Flynn, Kathy Weber, Debbie DeVenuta, Jim Vansteenburgh, Margaret Riddle, Tom Derr,

Meeting called to order at 4:15 by Matt

Public Comments: Meeting room locations have been changed. DCDC meetings will now occur at Keystone AEA for all meetings through June 2024. There will be no meeting in December. This was nominated by Penny, Margee seconded and all agreed.

Approval of September minutes: 9/12/23 approved by Jim and seconded by Kathy

New board member: DCDC welcomes Margaret Riddle. Margaret is a nurse at Medical Associates and currently working on doctoral degree with plans to graduate in May 2024.

TOWNHALL MEETING: All agreed that subcommittees should be formed to work on the action steps.

1. Grant application: Subcommittee will be Matt, Suellyn, Jim, and Samantha. Virtual meetings will be held to complete the application. Samantha will contact legislators, Chamber of Commerce, and area Mayors for additional supports to represent the county. Goal will be for this committee to meet prior to the November DCDC meeting.
2. No Greatness Without Goodness Book Study: All agreed to start the have the book study January-February and have discussion in February. Library will need numbers for checking it out and Samantha will send group the site to purchase the book.
3. Disability Employment Awareness Month: Jason sent VR highlights, if you had an individual that you would like to highlight, Samantha has some questions that you could get from her. Please send highlights to Samantha which will be placed on the DCDC Facebook page.
4. HHS meetings: Samantha shared out the information re: upcoming townhall sessions. Please share out to get individuals to attend so they can take part in the re-organization discussions. Iowa is re-structuring many areas within regions. Samantha will send out the new maps with the meeting minutes.

Conservation Website and Facebook page: Heritage trail has had lots of use of the new accessibility chair (check out their Facebook page!). They also have had accessible wagon rides. They are looking at purchasing another chair.

Samantha asked if we wanted to survey voting areas for accessibility due to elections coming up? We could choose some sites that weren't completed last year. We could send some messages out before the election to remind others of absenteeism ballots, if they need accommodations what supports are available. Are these special polling places available and could we put together a map and resources to share out?

For next meeting: Look at job descriptions and buildings for accessibility. How can we help other people see what the needs are?

Motion by Kathy to adjourn meeting at 4:55, Matt seconded.