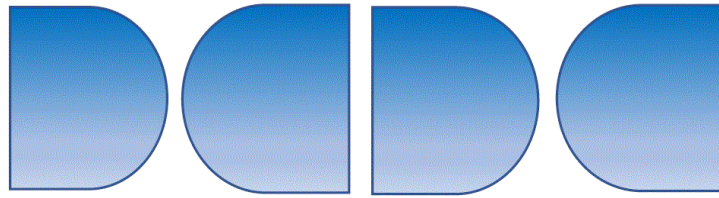




DUBUQUE COUNTY DISABILITIES COUNCIL



Meeting Minutes

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.

Meeting: May 14, 2024

Location: Keystone AEA

Attendance: Samantha Berglin, Matt Kennedy, Kathy Weber, Tom Derr, Jim Vansteenburg.



Meeting called to order at 4:00 by Matt.

Public Comments – None.

Approval of Minutes – Minutes of April were reviewed.

Discussion Items:

- 1) Samantha discussed that Chuck Isenhardt had emailed about a grant opportunity and Kevin Dragotto mentioned that Dubuque County is already doing a lot of community outreach for people with disabilities to educate on voting processes and registrations but that a lot of people don't know about it. Maybe DCDC could apply for the grant and use it to advertise and educate on these services that are available. Also discussed by the group that maybe peers could be trained to help peers-NAMI. Possibly a mock ballot process. Educate on how to identify your district/where you can vote. There are agencies helping their clients get registered and aware of their district polling places. Jim discussed that they are working on how to get voting rights back with those in jails/prisons. It was also discussed that they want to work on tracking people with disabilities and their needs for support with voting/accommodations etc. Kathy mentioned that the Archdiocese would likely be a partner in helping with offering a space/education opportunities as well. Also discussed educating caregivers on being impartial support to those that need assistance. Discussed early voting, college campus opportunities, etc.
- 2) Discussed planning of the DCDC Town Hall event. Discussed late July or early August (July 29th or 30th, August 5th or 6th). At Peosta NICC. Have it be an expo style with vendor table options and an hour of presentations. Discussed time 5-8pm. Presenters possibly Conservation, Voting, and Voc Rehab—20 minutes each. Other providers mentioned to invite: City Park and Rec, Miracle League, Special Olympics, AEA....discussed possibility to have a booth at the fair or farmer's markets to get people aware of the event and/or the council in general. Fair is a good idea but it is hot, someone has to man the booth the whole time, there is a cost, and maybe we could partner with another

group to share a table possibly. Discussed a radio and print ad need. Chamber of Commerce to help advertise too. Discussed a QR code to direct people to the website as well.

Next meeting we will plan the event and work on all the planning details.

Jim moved to adjourn the meeting and Kathy second. Meeting adjourned at 5:04pm.

With weather cancellations, if Dubuque Community School District (DCSD) has early release or a school closing on our meeting date, Sam will send out zoom link.

Next meeting: June 11, 2024 4:00 at Keystone AEA 2310 Chaney Road.