

## **Disability Awareness Starts Here (DASH) Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** January 7, 2014, 12:00 – 2:00pm, Community Center

**Present:** Pat Teal, Leesa Monroe, Marion Huxtable, Bonnie Bolster, Pat and Nancy Kelly-Patnode, Liz Heffern

**Absent:** Julie Duke

**Guests:** none

### **Introductions**

Pat explained that guests expected at this meeting to provide input for our hospital discussions were unable to attend this month.

### **Minutes**

Approval of minutes of our last meeting (November 2013) was deferred until next month.

### **Public Access**

#### **Jefferson healthcare new construction**

We will invite Sue Ammeter, plus Carl and Cathy Jarvis, also Emily Mandelbaum to provide input for our recommendations to Jefferson HealthCare for its new construction. Carl and Cathy provide services for people with visual disabilities. Emily coordinates a group for people with hearing impairments. We will send them the list of recommendations that we generated already for the hospital so that they can add to this. The time frame for our expected meeting with Jefferson Healthcare regarding recommendations is approximately within 2 months.

We discussed more issues regarding the parking lot on 7<sup>th</sup> and Sheridan:

1. Are there sufficient accessible parking spaces?
2. There needs to be safe walkways between parked cars and building entrances.
3. There needs to be a walkway from Sheridan Street to hospital entrances.

People continue to park illegally in accessible parking spaces. Marion will check State Law to find out if there is a statute relating to private parking lots. We will then invite Police and Hospital to a meeting to discuss the issue and to determine whose responsibility it is to handle illegal parking in accessible spaces.

It was also noted that Jefferson Healthcare has placed sandwich boards on sidewalks and blocking curb cuts.

#### **Jefferson Health Care Training**

Staff needs training regarding accessibility and DASH is available to do that.

#### **Sheridan Street**

Cars are parked illegally across sidewalk on Sheridan Street. The Police have been called. Pat will raise this issue with the NMTAB also.

The issue was raised of the bike lane presenting a possible safety hazard for cyclists who could be hit by passengers exiting parked cars without checking.

### **Port of Port Townsend**

The WSU space rented at the Port is currently an issue for accessibility. Gatheringplace serves people with disabilities and is currently renting at the Port. However they have been informed that they have to move and have requested help from DASH regarding accessibility at a new location within the Port. Since both WSU and Gatheringplace have issue of accessibility, we will invite Larry Crockett (Port Director) to a meeting to discuss solutions.

### **Treasurer's report**

Regular account is \$1176.63. Emergency account is \$533.69

### **Public Outreach**

We will go ahead with updating the Restaurant brochure and reprinting the Entertainment Venues brochure. Pat will send out a list of the new restaurants that need to be evaluated – about 5 or 6. We will need a wheelchair. The possibility of a laminated larger version for display was discussed.

Victoria House has a new activities director who could be invited to a DASH Board meeting.

### **Rotary Presentation**

Leesa reported on the Rotary presentation. She gave a thorough overview with examples of DASH's work. This was well received. Carla Caldwell, UGN Executive Director, made sure that our materials were made available to all 40 people present. New donation forms were made available.

### **Other Business**

A thank you card was signed for a donor.

Meeting adjourned 2:00 pm

**Next meeting** –Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at Community Center 12:00-2:00