

Bismarck-Mandan Mayors' Committee for People with Disabilities

**January 10, 2023
4:00 pm Mandan City Hall
Dykshoorn Conference Room**

DesaRae called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. DesaRae completed roll call.

Agenda

1. Review & consider minutes from Sept. 13, 2022.

Jim clarified the scholarship check amounts included in the September 13, 20,22 minutes. Deidre stated that the correction has been made to the minutes. Five \$1,000 scholarships were given out, not \$5,000 scholarships. Jim moved to make the correction. Tom seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Review and consider treasurer's report from Sept. 13, 2022

Jim explained the treasurer's report that was sent out prior to the meeting. Two scholarship checks were returned. There was also a \$2 monthly service charge accrued from the Bank of North Dakota. Jim will look into a workaround for this. Total \$7,817.50 checking balance and a CD balance of 5,218.48. Mary discussed the reasoning for returned scholarship checks.

DesaRae questioned the dates for the CD to investigate better interest rate. Jim will look into this. Deidre moved to approved. Mark seconded the motion.

3. Schedule annual audit

DesaRae will work with Jim to schedule a date for the audit and will follow up with Deidre on completion time frame.

4. Review by-laws

DesaRae questioned if any committee members found any items within the bylaws that needed to be changed.

Mary questioned the employment support section of the bylaws. Mary moved to approve the existing bylaws. Jim seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Roles available on committee

Committee Members

X President, DesaRae Berreth, MDU, 2015 (Mandan)

x Vice President, Tom Schiwal, VR, 2018 (Bismarck)

x Secretary, Deidre Hughes, Bis-Man Transit, 2021 (Mandan)

x Treasurer, Jim Neubauer, City Administrator, 2009 (Mandan)

VACANT, Burleigh County Auditor,

x Mark Splonskowski, City Commission 2020 (Bismarck)

VACANT, Community Options

x Mary Robinson, Dakota CIL, 2011 (Bismarck)

Ashley Coles, Hughes Educational Center, 2022 ()

Laura Mildenerger, Hughes Educational Center, 2009 (Mandan)

x Ryan Fugere, HIT Inc., 2020 (Bismarck)

Alyssa Caya, MHS 2017 (Mandan)

X Tami Ternes, ND Assistive, 2022 (Bismarck)

Devan Gross, Pride Inc., 2022 (Mandan)

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DesaRae questioned if any committee members were interested in learning about other Roles on the committee. Jim moved that the current officers remain in place for 2023. Deidre seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Review budget

DesaRae questioned if the committee wishes to continue offering five \$1,000 scholarships, as it has in the past. Mary questioned if Voc Rehab is seeking to take over the funding that is being used to support the scholarships offered by the committee. Tom stated he was unsure of the source of that funding. Tom will follow up on this. Mary discussed that a lower scholarship amount may result in fewer applicants. Deidre moved to offer five \$1,000 scholarships. Jim seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Scholarship application

a. Determine due date for applicants

The scholarship deadline for applicants is set for April 28, 2023. Recipients will be announced no later than May 12, 2023.

b. Determine how many scholarship applications will be provided and dollar value
Five \$1,000 scholarships will be offered.

c. Determine if there are other ways to advertise and make public aware of the scholarship

Mary will be reaching out to past contacts from letters of recommendation. Mandan and Bismarck's contacts will be notified of the scholarship opportunity.

Tom and Jim will follow up with contacts to determine if funding is secured for future scholarships by January 20th. In the event the funding is reduced, the committee will revisit the scholarship amounts.

8. Review and consider any barrier-free request

There are no barrier-free requests at this time. Mary discussed a previously completed project and recommended that committee members look for similar opportunities. Tom discussed snow removal for Bismarck businesses and if this could be considered a barrier-free request. Jim discussed Mandan's "Golden Shovel" award to bring awareness to businesses and residents who are doing a good job shoveling to ensure accessibility. Tom discussed the possibility of giving "Thank you" cards for businesses that are doing a good job keeping their accessibility features available. Mark recommended connecting with the Downtowners Association to help inform members about the importance of keeping their businesses barrier-free. DesaRae mentioned encouraging businesses to share photos on their social media to encourage the marketing effort. Mary will be discussed during her employee staff meeting. Deidre provided Mary with contact information for someone at the Downtowners.

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9. Review and consider any financial request

No financial requests at this time.

10. Next Meeting May 9, 2023

11. Adjourn

Tom moved to adjourn at 4:44PM. Jim seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.