

MINUTES
ADVISORY BOARD FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

January 17, 2019

MEMBERS Jorge Ibacache, Chair

PRESENT: Denis Bayle
Elizabeth Espinoza
June McCarthy
John Neff
Veronica Palomino
Tracy Stafford
Elaine Turner

MEMBERS Pamela Romack

ABSENT:

ALSO Vanesha Sinclair, Administrative Assistant, Professional

PRESENT: Standards/Human Rights Section
Jennifer Di Bono, Professional Standards Specialist, Professional
Standards/Human Rights Section
Margaret Stapleton, Director, Office of Public Communications
Michael Jorgensen, AV Program Director, Office of Public
Communications
Jean Russo, Broward County Realtime Reporter

A meeting of the Advisory Board for Individuals with Disabilities, (ABID) was held on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 1:33 p.m., in Room 301 of the Broward County Governmental Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The Chair called the meeting to order. A quorum was present following Roll Call by Vanesha Sinclair, Administrative Assistant, Professional Standards/Human Rights Section.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Without objection, the ABID adopted the agenda, as submitted.

3. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING MINUTES – DECEMBER 13, 2018

Without objection, the ABID approved the Annual Planning Minutes of December 13, 2018, as submitted.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair thanked the Board for their role in the upcoming year. The Chair reported that some items from the Board's last meeting carried over to today's agenda. In addition, the Chair reported that the ABID received a response from Emergency Management, which was distributed to the Board, and attached to this day's Meeting Minutes.

(At this time, the ABID took up Item Number 9.)

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(Item Number 5 was taken out of order following Item Number 9.)

- 2018 Annual Report and Recommendations

Following ABID's review of Emergency Management Recommendations, Mr. Bayle stated that Recommendations 3, 5 and 6 have been met; however, Mr. Bayle suggested revisiting Recommendation 1 for further review by Board Members that are not currently in attendance at this day's meeting.

Ms. McCarthy referenced Recommendation 3 and accepted the identification of a contact person; however, suggested that additional contact information should be made available such as phone numbers and email addresses. Ms. McCarthy suggested that the last two words in Recommendation 5 should be modified from "timely basis" to a more specific time. In addition, Ms. McCarthy suggested that vulnerable population verbiage be modified to individuals with disabilities.

Mr. Bayle referenced Recommendations 3 and 5, and asked staff to provide him with the liaison's email information or telephone number so as to obtain further information on After Action Reports.

The Chair suggested that the Board could potentially approve Recommendations 3 and 5, and create a new Recommendation as a follow up to Recommendations 3 and 5.

Mr. Neff referenced a designated staff member within Recommendation 4. Ms. McCarthy then offered to take notes at meetings.

Following ABID discussion of Recommendation 6, the ABID decided to leave Recommendation 6 open. The ABID suggested help from lobbyists as to Recommendation 6, as well as suggested making recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners for their support.

Ms. Sinclair referenced Recommendation 6, and noted that she will be scheduling a meeting for the Legislative Committee, as well as noted that she received notification from Ms. Espinoza as to what Ms. Espinoza would like to discuss.

Ms. McCarthy referenced responses to Recommendation 1 and 7, and recognized the services available; however, Ms. McCarthy suggested that Recommendations should encompass educating people to go to specific websites and agencies, and should be

made clearer. In addition, Ms. McCarthy suggested including education in Public Service Announcements, as well.

The Chair suggested rewording Recommendations 1 and 7 and potentially creating another Recommendation following up with Recommendations 1 and 7.

In response to the ABID as to educating persons to go to specific websites, Ms. Di Bono explained that the County is undergoing compliance of websites. Ms. Di Bono suggested that the ABID can recommend to the Office of Public Communications that information be provided on BCTV. So as to further help provide information to the public, Ms. Di Bono noted that information can be provided on tables which are for rent in the lobby of the Governmental Center.

(Ms. Turner entered the room.)

The Chair asked the ABID to provide rewording for Recommendation 1, as well as suggested renumbering Recommendations.

Ms. Sinclair asked the ABID to confirm the following:

- Recommendations 2, 3 and 4 are closed.
- Recommendation 5 is revised to Recommendation 2.
- Recommendation 7 is revised to Recommendation 1.

The ABID discussed renumbering Recommendations, and agreed that Recommendations 2, 3 and 4 are closed, Recommendation 5 is revised to Recommendation 2. Recommendation 6 is being left open at this time, and will become Recommendation 3. In addition, the older version of Recommendation 7 is now on Page 4, under Education Recommendation 2. Recommendation 7 for 2018 becomes Recommendation 2 in 2019, under Education.

Ms. Sinclair stated that technically Recommendations were not moved in the document. Ms. Sinclair pointed out Education and Awareness for 2019, and noted that Recommendation 2 was listed in the Draft as Education and Awareness; and was forwarded to the appropriate agency.

The Board discussed Education and Awareness Recommendations with Emergency Recommendations. Ms. Espinoza suggested keeping the first part of Recommendations, and adding ***“ABID recommends emergency preparation and education of the general public, and must absolutely include the vulnerable population in terms of preparedness and response.”*** Ms. Espinoza made further suggestion to add, ***“The County should further its efforts to educate people with disabilities by using multiple media sources, for example, Facebook, print and media.”***

In response to Ms. McCarthy, the Chair noted that this would be reflected under Recommendation Number 1 under Emergency Recommendations.

Ms. Espinoza made further suggestion that Recommendations read, something to the effect that ***“Emergency Management should be designed in a user-friendly fashion.”***

Ms. McCarthy expressed the need to communicate to the agency that the ABID understands their response. Ms. McCarthy suggested that the ABID recommend, ***“Emergency Education Preparation of the general public with the inclusion of individuals with disabilities.”***

Ms. McCarthy pointed out that Recommendation 7 is not the same as Recommendation 1.

Ms. Espinoza suggested using that as the main Recommendation with the addition of verbiage.

Ms. McCarthy handwrote additional verbiage, and suggested verbiage read: ***“ABID recommends a focus on educating Individuals with Disabilities on Disaster Planning, registering with the Vulnerable Population Registry, the Special Needs Registry or the Transportation System, and making sure they have disaster materials and supplies in their home. We understand there are many sites or expos and other places to sign up, but our Recommendation is about the education and reaching Individuals with Disabilities possibly through PSA’s, Facebook, slides on websites, and print media.”***

Without objection, the ABID unanimously approved the above verbiage as stated by Ms. McCarthy.

The Chair pointed out two 2019 Recommendations in Emergency Management labeled under Education and Awareness. The Chair suggested removing Recommendation 2 on Page 4 of 2019 Recommendations, and replacing it with Recommendation 1.

The Board noted that staff is working on Recommendation 3.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- Installation of Newly Elected ABID Officers

Following discussion, the ABID reached consensus to leave Elected ABID Officers the same.

- 2019 Annual Report and Recommendations

On motion of Ms. Espinoza, seconded by Ms. McCarthy and unanimously carried, the ABID approved 2019 Annual Report Recommendations as revised under Item 5.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Chair pointed out Item 7, and asked the ABID to contact Ms. Sinclair for any committee meetings that are to be scheduled.

Ms. McCarthy expressed that agencies should be made aware that the ABID is looking to agencies as to educating the ABID relative to their respective agencies.

A. Emergency Management

(No report given.)

B. Transportation

(No report given.)

C. Education and Awareness

(No report given.)

D. Inclusive Communities

(No report given.)

E. Legislation

(No report given.)

F. Employment

(No report given.)

8. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Ms. Espinoza expressed that it is her hope to be able to easier find information related to Boards.

In reference to Ms. McCarthy's suggestions made earlier in this day's meeting as to modifying "vulnerable population" verbiage, Mr. Bayle referenced Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Guidelines that include Emergency Response, Mitigation and Recovery. Mr. Bayle stated that FEMA's preferred terminology is people with disabilities. Mr. Bayle stated that FEMA guidelines include avoiding terms such as the handicapped, the disabled, the impaired, and the challenged. Mr. Bayle stated additional guidelines from FEMA include people with disabilities and others who also have access and functional needs, and that terms to avoid are special needs, vulnerable, and vulnerable population.

Ms. McCarthy suggested that the ABID make recommendation that verbiage be modified from vulnerable population to individual with disabilities.

The Chair asked the ABID to look at At Your Service booklets and send recommendations to the Office of Public Communications.

9. NON-AGENDA/PUBLIC COMMENT/REQUEST FOR FUTURE ITEMS

(Item Number 9 was taken out of order following Item Number 4.)

Office of Public Communications Director Margaret Stapleton provided an overview of the following, and asked for ABID's input.

- Communication presented in a variety of formats
- Find an Agency/Find a Service database
- New features that were added to the database that include increasing the size of the font in the database, contrast options, and language translating options
- At Your Service Residence Guide
- Work with the Office of Emergency Services and Communications to launch Text to 911, which will encompass closed captioning and signing services

Office of Public Communications, AV Director Michael Jorgensen, noted that signing, as well as opened and closed captions will be provided with Text to 911. Mr. Jorgensen asked the ABID for feedback as to other communication tools that are used in the community.

Ms. McCarthy offered to email CaptionCall information to the Office of Public Communications. In addition, Ms. McCarthy suggested interfacing communications with CaptionCall. Further, Ms. McCarthy noted that CaptionCall provides communication for English, Spanish, Creole and French, and that 911 can be utilized. Ms. McCarthy pointed out that CaptionCall services and installation is free for persons with disabilities.

In response to Mr. Neff, Mr. Jorgensen noted that Text to 911 is only available in English at this time. Mr. Neff suggested reaching out to the School Board surrounding educating children and parents as to Text to 911.

In response to the Chair, Ms. Stapleton stated that she will look into CaptionCall, as well as text availability for 311 services.

In response to Mr. Bayle, Ms. Stapleton stated that there are a number of ways to provide emergency alerts such as the general media, social media and AlertBroward; however, TTY is not utilized to push messages out. Ms. Stapleton noted that a TTY system at the Call Center gets very little use. Ms. Stapleton provided her contact information for the ABID if the Board wishes to follow up with her office.

In response to Mr. Neff, Ms. Stapleton noted that At Your Service booklets are distributed to Homeowners Associations, Broward Sheriff's Office, and health centers, as well as are distributed upon request, and are placed in high traffic areas.

In response to the Chair, Ms. Stapleton noted that she is happy to provide another section in the At Your Service booklet. ABID members made request to include discrimination information into the At Your Service booklet.

Ms. McCarthy suggested making websites more user-friendly such as directing people where to physically click on specific areas of websites relative to where settings are located relating to increasing font size and the like.

The Board discussed Broward County websites and registries. Ms. McCarthy made suggestion to change verbiage from vulnerable population to individuals with disabilities.

The Chair asked the Office of Public Communications to include Text to 911 in Emergency Alerts as part of Public Communication updates.

(Ms. Di Bono entered the room.)

In response to Mr. Neff as to how the public is made aware of ABID Meetings, Ms. Di Bono noted that Sunshine Meeting Notices are posted on the County's website. Mr. Neff suggested that Public Communications provide information on their website and/or in the At Your Service booklet as to informing the public of ABID Meetings.

(Ms. Espinoza entered the room.)

(Ms. Stapleton and Mr. Jorgensen left the room.)

(Later in the meeting, Ms. Stapleton provided copies of the At Your Service Booklet to the ABID.)

10. ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, the Chair adjourned this day's ABID meeting at 3:16 p.m.

(A copy of the audio recording of this meeting is available upon request by calling Document Control located in Room 336U, at (954) 357-7297.)