President’s Commission on the Status of People with Disabilities
April 1, 2014
Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Wendy Beckwith, Mariah Bellington, Kathy Berger, Chandler Bullard, Cathy Coakley, Kevin Ennis, Sylvia Foster, Linda Guttman, Georgia Kerns, John LaCourse, Tobey Partch-Davies, Jeff Parsons, Judy Stevens, Nate Talbot, Janis Zrebiec

I. Minutes
- Members voted to approve the March minutes.

II. Continued Discussion from Student Panel
- The issue on snow removal for sidewalk curb cut areas will be assigned to the Physical Access working group.
- With regard to the issue of meal provisions during campus curtailments – Kevin indicated that Transportation has provided the Access van for him during curtailments to the dining hall, but if his personal care attendant is not able to get to the dining hall, then we have a gap that needs to be addressed.
  - Kathy clarified that during any campus curtailment, whether its weather related or a power outage, students just need to call HoCo reception 2-0701 and if that student can’t get out of their rooms, then HoCo will bring food to the student.
  - She also indicated that since individual needs vary in terms of PCA care, she will work with these students to devise a plan of action for them to use when their PCA’s are unable to reach campus.

III. Budget Update
- The current budget balance is $244.86. John asked members for suggestions on ways to apply the remaining funds.
  - Wendy suggested donating the money to the Office of International Students and Scholars, to go towards the costs of the Access van used in field trips for the Buddies Without Borders program.
  - Members voted unanimously to approve using the remaining funds for this purpose.

IV. University Council for Inclusive Excellence and Equity
- Members reviewed the notes provided from the February council meeting that included updates on advocacy for the social identity attribute, the ADVANCE grant programs and the work toward preferred name and pronoun usage.
- Georgia and John will follow up with Provost Lisa McFarlane as to why this commission lacks a representative on the search committee for the associate vice president for community, equity and diversity.

V. WORKING GROUP UPDATES

PROGRAMMING WORKING GROUP (Dani, Georgia, Judy, Janis, Kathy Berger, Sylvia, Chandler, Kristin, Linda, Tobey, Kevin)
- Events and Programs:
  - The group is working on lining up a speaker for the November International Education Week event. Suggestions to date included Judith Heumann, Special Advisor for International Disability Rights; Kirk Bauer, Executive Director of Disabled Sports USA; Amos Winter, Director of the Global Engineering and Research (GEAR) Lab; Ann Cody, a three-time U.S. Paralympian; and Tyler Chase, UNH alum.
• First Year Program: This initiative will be removed from future agendas.

PHYSICAL ACCESS WORKING GROUP (John, Lonn, Jeff, Doug, Elaina, Wendy)

• Wendy reported that she viewed the pilot model of the nine building interiors that GIS has been working on. Due to security reasons GIS is not sure whether all building interiors on campus will be available to be downloaded on the Accessibility Map.
  o Janice will work with GIS to set up a time for commission members to view the demo.
  o John will check with Drew Stock, the student working on the mobile app, to arrange a time for the working group to view a demonstration of the app.

COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP (Mariah, Janice, Cathy Coakley, Nate)

• A meeting to discuss the sidewalk project is being scheduled with Video Services.
• The video created by journalism student Shannon Reville, has been posted on the commission’s website. The video is an interview with Kevin and is titled “The Definition of Ability: Kevin Ennis”.
• Nate reported that the letter introducing the Bias Free Language Guide is in the works.
  o Suggestion was made to send the letter to Donna Marie for her faculty orientation, and to Cari Moorhead as a resource for graduate students and TA’s.

VI. FOLLOW-UP ON TITLE IX

• Linda reported that she was told by Tricia Hanley, Women’s Commission co-chair, that Donna Marie and Chief Paul Dean will continue to use the draft protocol, as governed by the “Dear Colleagues letter”.
  o Georgia added that a meeting with all commission co-chairs is scheduled for later this month to discuss possible next steps/options.

Respectfully submitted
Janice Pierson

Meeting Schedule: May 6