

## **The Mayor's Alliance Board Meeting Minutes**

September 9, 2008

**Call to order:** 3:30 by Linda Carter

**Roll call – Present:** Linda Carter, Mary Carter, Dottie Grant, Dottie Woytow, Barb Hartman, Jim Vidrine, Gail Fox, Wendy Grant, Deb Reardon

**Absent:** George Richards, Bob Haenggi, Marianne Davis, Elaine Gage, Mark Guthrie, Barbara Wisher and Susan Barrows

**Approval of March Minutes:** *Motion to accept made, seconded and July 2008 minutes accepted by unanimous vote as written.*

**Treasurers Report** - Submitted by Gail Fox. Sustainability is dependent upon; fundraising efforts, fees, grants and community donations. Gail obtained all prior budgets from Ron for use with new grant proposal to Goodwill Industries, Inc.

### **Committee Reports:**

1. **Education** – Jim Vidrine presented draft versions of Consumer and Business Outreach Scripts; pending APD Administration approval for use. i.e. Parents, Providers, Employers, Chamber, Community & other business related events.
2. **Friend Raising** - Dottie Grant & Wendy Grant moved to actively participate in obtaining gifts for Oct. breakfast raffle. See October Breakfast notes.
3. **Membership** - Annual membership dues \$25.00 payable at October breakfast; new form updated with current prices: Member and guest breakfast rate \$10.00, no charge to Goodwill Industries, Inc. Board members, Consumers accompanied by paying member will not be charged for breakfast, Employer (1), Employee, and 2 attending family members will not pay for breakfast. All members agreed to actively recruit new members increase attendance and committee participation. Food count requires RSVP.
4. **Public Relations** -
5. **Special Projects:**

A **ANNUAL OCTOBER BREAKFAST** - Employers identified for nomination awards, (Barb & Dottie), cost runs approximately \$2,000, Ray Judah identified as speaker for opening remarks as a committed advocate for the MA., Mayor Humphries (LC) pending confirmation, or Mike Scott (Wendy/Dottie W) as possible second as keynote speaker. Good PR fit with attending employers; City of Fort Myers (County Commissioners), and City Prosecutor (George Richards). Linda Carter asked for input on Employer letter with comments and changes submitted by email immediately;

remove special language agreed (Deb/DW). Fox, Wink, Media will be contacted to attend.

B. **DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH** – Linda C. received variety of web responses to local activities and events planned during October and will be posted to MA website. Updates and changes should be forwarded promptly to get the word out.

C. **Twenty Year Celebration** – Nancy G. formatted probing questions for Q & A on style, direction, theme, resources necessary for October 2009 event. Breakfast event ruled out, prefer more formal event. Bring in experienced non profits; ICAN Handbag Happy Hour (Deb), ACT Abuse Counseling Treatment, Toe Artist – Ann (Barb H).

**New Business:**

Dottie Grant presented information she compiled regarding a focused public relations effort by joining the downtown Fort Myers Chamber. The annual fee of \$175.00 will shine much needed local attention onto the Mayor's Alliance mission and purpose along with possible employment opportunities thru business networking. This forum will also provide an opportunity to increase employer participation and for Jim Vidrine to utilize the Business Case for hiring individuals with disabilities because it's good business. Barb W motioned for acceptance, Deb R seconded, motion unanimous by all.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Reardon

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