

**Quality of Life
Accessibility Advisory Council (AAC) Minutes**

Monday March 26th, 2012

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Manufactured Housing, Recreation Vehicles & Campground Association
2222 Association Drive, Okemos Michigan 48864-5978

Roll Call and Introduction of Visitors – Rick Briggs/Stacy Welling

The meeting was called to order by Rick Briggs at approximately 10 AM.

Present were Albert Bobrofsky, Rick Briggs, Cindy Burkhour, David Campbell, Daryl Dompke calling in, Carolyn Grawi, Michelle Ann Mull, Jim Trinklein, John Witzke, Duncan Wyeth John Edgerly, Kimberly Woolridge and Tendra Jackson for Vendella Collins.

Guests were Ken Bucholtz, Casey Peterson, Len Sawisch, and Elizabeth Kelly

A-Team members present were Don Avers, Mike Evanoff, Joe Frick
Creig Grey, Maureen Houghton, Patricia Lawton, Lynne Thoma, Stacy Welling, and Val Frawley

Quality Of Life Welcome to AAC- Stacy Welling

- AAC purpose, participation values
- Meeting goals and outcomes

Minutes Acceptance– Rick Briggs

Acceptance of Monday, December 12, 2011 minutes

Moved by Albert Bobrofsky, seconded by Duncan Wyeth to approve the minutes, motion carried.

Demo Days 2011 Recap (I) – Daryl Domke / Stacy Welling

Daryl, by phone, reported on the Ultimate Sports Show in Grand Rapids success with 7 spaces and 7 vendors representing accessibility opportunities and equipment in the outdoors. Daryl thought it was a good show. Rick Briggs attended and was pleased with the involvement and displays.

Stacy recapped Demo Days in the UP in 2011. Escanaba had approximately 6,000 people attend while the Day at the Lake event was a more remote event that was more participatory day.

Stacy mentioned that Superior Alliance for Independent Living (SAIL) of Marquette participated in the events.

Stacy also introduced Ken Bucholtz of Escanaba that together spoke of an upcoming event- ReCreating in the Great Outdoors on August 25th, 2012 from 9AM to 5PM. Participants need to be there the day before. This will start at the Pocket Park in the UP Sate Fairgrounds. Shooting, kayaking, fishing and boat & pontoon rides are part of the agenda for this introduction to accessible recreation and adaptive equipment. Contact Ken at 906-553-2268 or Brenda Crow at 906-233-1319 for more information.

Dwarf World Games –Duncan Wyeth

Duncan announced that the 6th World Dwarf Games will be held on the MSU Campus on August 3rd – 10th, 2013. He then introduced Casey Peterson who gave a very informative overview of the Games and history of the events. Len Sawisch was also introduced and discussed some needs for the Games- specifically they are planning a fishing competition and would need fishing licenses or an exemption for the participants.

Action Item: Joe Frick to check on the license exemption possibility for 20 to 50 participants from around the world.

Accessible Outdoor Video Series-Elizabeth Kelly (ekelly@awiderworld.com)

Elizabeth presented a video clip of a segment of their production “A Wider World” aired on many PBS stations in Michigan. The show highlights accessible events and activities in Michigan and is the brainchild of Roger McCarville. Elizabeth would like to propose to the DNR to partner on several segments for the series.

Rick spoke of building on this by combining synergies across purviews. Discussed possibly a segment regarding “Tightlines for Troops” at Manistee on May 19th, 2012.

Action Item- Stacy will discuss with Kristen Phillips of DNR Marketing.

DNR Volunteer Programs Report – Mike Evanoff

Mike of Parks and Recreation Division (PRD) gave an overview of PRDs volunteer program.

Cindy stated that the AAC is looking more for “Accessibility Volunteer Opportunities”.

Hunt From Standing Vehicle Permit (HSVP) Process –Creig Grey

Creig gave an overview of the fishing permit for persons with intellectual disabilities or a resident of a home for the aged. LED is attempting to put like processes in place for issuance of these two permits.

Action Item- Creig Grey will provide AAC and A-Team members with copies of these applications, sample permits, and enabling legislation, rule, or order. Jim Trinklein requested the current number of HSVP which, as of 3/28/12, is 884 with 150 due to expire at the end of March.

Issue statement: Hunting Season Special Permit Process – Stacy Welling /Ken Bucholtz

Stacy introduced Ken Bucholtz who discussed the possibility that hunters qualified for the Special Disabled Firearm Hunt (Which occurs starting the Thursday prior to the third Saturday in October and for 3 days thereafter) would have the flexibility to extend their season when they are unable to participate due to illness, staffing, etc.

Action Item- Stacy will discuss with department staff.

Hunting from a Motor Vehicle on a Game Bird Preserve- Jim Trinklein

Jim passed out the first version of possible legislation that could allow hunting from a motor vehicle by a person with disabilities.

Purchase of 12 Accessible Hunting Blinds- Rick Briggs

Rick gave an update on his vision of having 12 accessible blinds posted around the state for use for wildlife viewing and hunting.

Department Actions Update – Joseph Frick

Joe discussed money and funding issues challenge the department. He also discussed Bill Moritz coming back to the department as the Deputy Director.

Joe discussed the reorganization of Parks and Recreation division and Forest Resource division and the effect on programs.

Joe also told the AAC team of Kelly Grumelot's leave of absence.

Public Comment (I) – Rick Briggs

No comments

Open for announcements/discussion of other items

Cindy Burkhour brought up the topic using personal assistive mobility devices (PAMD) on department trails and the legal implications. She had spoken to a horse riding group and they discussed how horses can be scared by PAMDs.

Creig Grey discussed that department trails were multiuse trails generally and that some trails had use restricted to certain types of uses such as single track cycle trail. A discussion ensued on the evolution of the Pigeon River Country access plan and the restrictions on horse use; which resulted in a legislative change requiring limits on horse use to go through additional review before final decision.

Kimberly Woolridge of the Department of Civil Rights notified the group that they are sponsoring for the Summer Series of training, geared for law enforcement, Hate Crime Training for Law enforcement. She stated that these groups may meet or train in state parks or state owned lands.

Carolyn Grawi spoke of a group forming- Social Workers in Sports Associations.

Duncan asked how or if the Department of Justice policy on Accommodations will effect department programs.

Action Item- A-Team will look at this issue.

Creig Grey had an anonymous quote for the group in light of the presentation on department volunteers-

"Volunteers are NOT paid, Not because they are worthless, But because they are priceless"

Wrap up (I) – Rick Briggs/ Stacy Welling

The AAC is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday June 26th, 2012 from 10am-2pm, at the MHRVAC Okemos location. All Issue statements and handouts for Tuesday June 26th, 2012 meeting are due to Erica Moore by Monday May 21st, 2012 if they are going to be included in agenda or used in meeting.

**The meeting site is accessible, including barrier free parking. People who have a disability requiring additional accommodations in order to participate in the meeting should contact Stacy Welling 906.228.6561 or by email at wellings1@michigan.gov at least 3 work days before the event*

Adjourned: At approximately 2 PM