

PINELLAS COUNTY COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
MEETING MINUTES

June 3, 2024, at 10:00AM
Pinellas County Extension, Magnolia Room
12520 Ulmerton Rd, Largo FL 33774

CALL TO ORDER

Jody Armstrong, Chair

ROLL CALL

Present

Jody Armstrong, Chair (Disability Achievement Center)
Ross Silvers, Vice Chair (Eggers)
Misti Pollaro, Secretary (Family Network on Disabilities)
Kerry Carlisle (Peters)
Doreen Caudell (Latvala)
Deborah Figgs-Sanders (Flowers)
Jack Humburg (Boley Center)
Todd Jennings (Scott)
Angel Overly (FL Gulf Coast Paralyzed Veterans of America)
Kimberly Rankine (Long)
Stuart Strikowski, Area Agency on Aging (AAAPP)

Not Present

Michelle Detweiller (Parc Center for Disabilities)
Linsey Grove (Justice)

Others Present

Betina Baron, Pinellas County Office of Human Rights Compliance Manager
Carol Strickland, Pinellas County Office of Human Rights
Keiah Townsend, Pinellas County Assistant County Attorney

Other interested parties

Donna Wright (ABLE Trust)
Greggory Milam (Pinellas County Parks)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- A quorum was met at this meeting. Approval of Minutes from March 4th, 2024, unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sports Ability Alliance Beach Accessibility:

- Terminology correction: Use "Beach Access Mat" instead of "MobiMat".
- Efforts to expand the project statewide.

- Jody will get an update on Statewide initiatives at the Family Cafe, when she meets with Sports Ability.
- Bright Futures scholarship applicant, Dillon Cornelius, has been surveying the beaches and collecting data. Jody is following up to ensure that the young man received his certificate of appreciation for his work.
- Updates on beach access mats:
 - Madeira Beach installed a second mat at Tom and Kitty Stuart Park but lacks accessible parking.
 - Issues with mat replacement post-dune restoration; Indian Shores mat not reinstalled.
 - Need for tracking municipal mat installations for accurate responses.
 - Fort De Soto and Honeymoon Island each have two mats installed.

Presentation to the Board of County Commissioners:

- Creation of an infographic highlighting council achievements, with additional input requested.
- Positive feedback on the infographic's simplicity and informativeness.
- Plan to present the infographic to the Board of County Commissioners.

Parks Accessibility:

- Discussion on improving Ridgcrest and other parks' accessibility.
- Emphasis on fully accessible new playgrounds, with features like ride-along swings.
- Ensuring playground renovations meet ADA standards and include necessary accessibility features.

NEW BUSINESS:

Able Trust Presentation- The Able Trust, also known as the Florida Governor's Alliance for the Employment of Citizens with Disabilities, is a public 501(c)(3) charity that supports employment opportunities for people with disabilities in Florida. In essence, the Able Trust is a vital resource for Pinellas County, working to create a more inclusive and accessible workforce for individuals with disabilities.

NEXT STEPS:

- Monitor progress with Sports Ability Alliance.
- Follow-up on beach access mat inquiries, particularly for Madeira Beach and Indian Shores.
- Refine presentation materials for the Board of County Commissioners.
- Continue efforts to enhance park accessibility and ensure ADA compliance.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING: September 9, 2024