**Mayor’s Council in Support of People with Disabilities**

**Thursday, February 11, 2016**

**Meeting Minutes**

**3:00-4:00pm**

**In Attendance: Absent:**

Tim Meagher Julia Glanz (Meeting in Annapolis with Mayor)

Greg Tyler Laurie Andrews

Michelle Odom (New ADA coordinator-Mayor’s Bonnie Walston

Office)

Due to a lack of quorum, meeting minutes were not approved. The vote was postponed to the May 12th meeting.

The election of a new chair was also postponed due to a lack of quorum. The Council needs a Chair to be elected to lead this Council.

Reviewed some of the new updates since the last meeting on December 10, 2015.

* Mayor & Julia toured BISM & Lower Shore Enterprises (Blind Industries Services Maryland)
* Will be working with BISM to consider contracting some of their services.
* Testifying in support of Holly Center’s Budget and DDA Facilities in Annapolis. (Developmental Disabled Administration)
* Continually improving our City’s sidewalks to be ADA compliant.

The group graciously gave Michelle a short summary of some of the other COS Departments that have attended or sent a representative to the MCISOPWD meetings.

The group discussed priorities and goals for 2016:

* Tim will meet with the Election Board on 2/12/16 to show how to use the new voting machines to Maryland residents since the primary is in April.
* The group discussed at the Mayor’s request to modify the name of this Advisory Committee. The group suggested the name “Disabilities Advisory Committee”. The group would like to present this name to the Mayor for his approval.
* Tim will also inquire with the Election Board about a twitter account since it is a Presidential election year.
* The group would like to appoint someone to fill the chair position, but would like the majority of the Advisory Committee to be present.
* Greg is very interested in having a Twitter account for this Committee that will also feed into the website.
* The group was very interested in having other departments work with this Advisory Committee that will help in any Grants they may be working on with an ADA compliance. Make sure Departments are aware of this Council
* The group stressed the importance of the known members or this committee to attend the meetings, or this Advisory Committee cannot move forward. If they do not wish to stay on the Board to please contact the office. Please send out reminders of the meeting a couple of days before the next meeting to remind people.
* Greg mentioned a new program ABLE (Association Better Living & Education) [www.able.org](http://www.able.org) Legislation passed by President Obama that will be under the Savings College Plan. The Maryland Governor is supposed to present and implement this program by next summer. This will benefit many people who are disabled.

**Next meeting dates:**

May 12th  3:00 PM

September 8th 3:00 PM

December 8th 3:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Odom