

ADA COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

October 1, 2021

Members Present: Thomas Kearns, Jennifer Hock, Bill Garand, Pat Jarvis, Kara Potter, Brandy Scarnati, Helen Scott, Bill Garand

Guests: Joylin Namie, Nicole Scollard

Possible Elections (Discussion)

- Thomas Kearns talked about how he inherited being the Chair Person of the ADA Committee. He said that he didn't want to step down but that he was worried that through his leadership, they weren't accomplishing everything the group could achieve at TMCC. Thomas said that if the committee or even a person on the committee feels strong enough to be the new chair, we should have an election. The attendees expressed that Thomas has been doing a good job, but the committee members would need some time to think about it. The committee tabled the item to the next meeting to give the group time to decide.

Yearly Membership Check (Individual Action and Committee Discussion)

- Thomas Kearns asked current members present Jennifer Hock, Bill Garand, Pat Jarvis, Kara Potter, Brandy Scarnati, and Helen Scott if they still wanted to continue being committee members, and they acknowledged yes. Nicole Scollard said she wanted to become a member of the ADA Committee in place of Kim Studebaker as the HR representative.
- Jennifer Hock mentioned that if all of the college is going to benefit from accessibility, we should have representatives from all over TMCC. She stated the committee should have representatives from Facilities Operation, Meadowood, Edison, and Redfield. Pat Jarvis said she could be a representative for Applied Technology at Edison. Kara Potter spoke up and said she could be the representative for the Health Science Center at Redfield. All members agreed and acknowledged that we best table the topic for the next meeting to recruit others and come up with committee recruitment ideas. Tabling the membership topic will also allow those not present at the meeting to speak to their continued membership.

TMCC Ability Day on March 1 (Discussion: Joylin Namie)

- Guest Joylin Namie, the 2021-2022 Faculty Diversity Advocate, spoke to the committee about having a disability awareness day on March 1, 2022, called Ability Day. Her goal for the day is to bring awareness to TMCC about different populations to dispel myths, misnomers, and misunderstandings about their disabilities.
- Several committee members, such as Kara Potter, offered suggestions like helping Joylin connect with a Deaf Advocate. At the end of the guest's visit, the committee said they would help by sending Joylin contacts they know of in disability advocate organizations. Also, the committee agreed and will meet Joylin in two weeks in a Zoom meeting to discuss other ways to help.

Old Business (Discussion)

- **Charter:** Thomas Kearns updated the committee that the new ADA Committee Charter posting is awaiting President Hilgersom's charter approval. When she does approve the new charter, the committee will be informed, and the new charter will be posted to the TMCC Committee's Website.

- **Training:** Thomas Kearns explained that as agreed upon by the committee, an Ad Hoc committee was formed to further the progress of the TMCC Training goal over the summer. Jennifer Hock pointed out that the committee realized to get the accessible training in place that TMCC needed, we had to know what technologies Faculty and Staff were using. She continued saying that the group came up with survey questions to present to TMCC Faculty and Staff, and she will be submitting that survey to the Institutional Research Office soon.

New Business (Discussion)

- The committee discussed the four chosen goals on April 30 and presented them to the President's Planning Council in May of 2021.
- Bill Garand discussed the history of the Emergency Evacuation Database and said at IT project meetings he has kept the database goal as a project to start in 2022 for TMCC.
- Helen Scott asked to have an emergency goal added to the list. She wants TMCC to put access doors from the Testing Room into RDMT 122, turning the cubicles at the end of the office space into quiet distraction free testing rooms for students with disabilities. Because there were no objections by the committee, it has been added.
- The outcome of the committee's discussion of this item is that five goals will now be sent to each member. Each ADA Committee member will rate the five yearly goals 1 through 5, assigning 1 as the committee's priority goal for the year and each of the other goals to be subsequently worked on as well.
- The goals to be rated by the committee are:
 - Improve Accessibility Purchasing Program
 - Complete Emergency Evacuation Database Project
 - Develop and Implement Marketing Plan for Accessibility Training
 - Accessible Book Selection
 - TMCC to build access doors from the Testing Room into RDMT 122, turning the cubicles at the end of the 122-office space into quiet, distraction-free testing rooms for students with disabilities.

Next Meeting

- The committee was asked which of the two months would work for the next ADA Meeting. November, without any objections, was chosen. There were two Friday dates picked that will work for most members, November 12 and November 19. These two dates will be sent to the group to vote upon for the next meeting.