

# MAYOR'S DISABILITY COUNCIL (MDC)



A NEW DAY.

## ***Mayor's Disability Council Board Meeting Minutes***

**Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 3:00 to 5:00 PM | Main Library, 303 N. Laura St.  
Multipurpose Conference Room**

**Members Present:** Ray Pringle, Stephanie Young, Natalie Alden, Dan O'Connor, Barbara Brown, Anida Pollo & Jose Morales

**Ad-Hoc Members Present:** Gonza Gonzague (VR), Lou Anne Haste (CareerSource), Amy Valentine (DCPS), Rebecca Scissors (DCPS), Capt. Rickie Grace (JFRD), Tonja Ferrell, Mia Johnson, & Fresno Cardona

**Staff Present:** Kara Tucker & Tereese Goodloe

**Citizens Present:** Dominique DeWitt (Wounded Warrior Project) & John Nooney (Advocate)

**Meeting called to order at:** 3:06pm by chair Ray Pringle

### **Welcome and Introduction:**

- Ray Pringle, *2025 MDC Board Chair*

**Guest Speaker:** Andrea Myers, Ethics

- Brief video played on Roberts Rules – After Andrea asked...  
*“What is the hardest thing about Roberts Rule?”*
  1. Keeping on topic
    - ✓ Make sure you have a good agenda (typically agenda is voted on & approved at the beginning of a meeting).
    - ✓ Any board member can raise hand and say **point of order** (if off topic), **point of information** (if can't hear).
    - ✓ The Chair decides if on topic or not.
  2. Time keeping

# MAYOR'S DISABILITY COUNCIL (MDC)



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- ✓ Set expectations early via email.
- ✓ Set time limits for each board member.

## Other Topics:

### 3. Side bar conversations

- ✓ Keep conversations limited to things board is supposed to cover (disabled citizens)

### 4. How to make a proper motion

- ✓ Presiding Officer cannot make a motion
- ✓ Presiding Officers don't vote (in government they do)

## ○ Roberts Rules of order:

- MDC Board, created by a Mayoral Executive Order #89-131, says what the responsibilities of the Board entails
- Make sure we have a quorum physically present in the room before voting on anything
- Can meet without a quorum but cannot vote or take any action
- Must propose an action (motion) and a second to have a conversation on an agenda topic/item
- Main motions are a formal proposal that the board takes a stance or action on a certain issue – cannot make a main motion while any other motions open and under discussion, focus on one topic at a time
- Subsidiary motion – change original motion
- Have conversations in a way where the public can hear and comment
- Motion maker talks first
- Do not make personal

# MAYOR'S DISABILITY COUNCIL (MDC)



A NEW DAY.

- Before voting on anything, ask if there is public comment on the topic
- If have speaker cards maintained by the staff liaison

## **Vote to Approve Minutes:**

- *Moved by: Jose Morales to approve minutes from: **March 4, 2025.***
- *Second by: Barbara Brown.*

## **Announcements/Updates:** Kara Tucker, *Chief COJ Disabled Services*

- Membership seat available – 4 seats
- IT Symposium – Virtual - 2 days:
  - March 27<sup>th</sup> – document accessibility
  - March 28<sup>th</sup> – Website accessibility
  - Over 116 attendees/30-60 attendees per session
  - feedback on survey – 10% increase of understanding the information
  - PowerPoint available by the beginning of next week
- Entrepreneurship Program application went live last night, will be sent out to MDC today
- JaxReady Fest April 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> (Prime Osborne)
- JHRC Fair Housing Expo April 26<sup>th</sup>
- April 23<sup>rd</sup> – deadline for Mark Rosser & James Brady Scholarship
- Kara attended LEAN Training with Parks & Recs Staff and Supervisor Training
- Staff attended MyJax Training
- Will finish DSD Interviews tomorrow
- Mayor “shout-out” to the Division & Kara for IT Symposium
- Meeting with Brooks Rehab – Spinal Cord Support Group:

# MAYOR'S DISABILITY COUNCIL (MDC)



A NEW DAY.

- 25 individuals in hospital at Brooks or part of the outpatient program or part of their adaptive recreation program
- A lot of feedback regarding advocacy for MDC and with programs and services for the city as well
- Well attended

## Subcommittee Reports:

- **Employment – Stephanie Young**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Entrepreneurs Program Informational Session was March 25<sup>th</sup>
    - ✓ Great turnout - 15
    - ✓ 30 applicants(possibly)
    - ✓ Hoping to have Class start soon with a mandatory kick-off meeting for participants
    - ✓ Application is on the website
    - ✓ Press Release & Media – May 6 (tentative)
  - Disability Access Action Plan & List of Resources for Employers on ADA Accessible website – tabled conversation
  - *Future Agenda items*
    - ✓ *October Mentoring Day – holding on to*
  - Create Website for Accessible Events
    - ✓ IT Symposium – first Panel Presentation item on website
  - Working with Chamber – still waiting on Pledge Card approval by General Council
  - City Job Fair – coming in the Fall
  - Hiring Abilities – adding to agenda next month

# MAYOR'S DISABILITY COUNCIL (MDC)



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- ***Legislation, Education & Public Safety (LEAPS) – Anida Pollo***

- Anida Pollo was appointed as Chair in place of Denise Torres and Jose Morales appointed vice chair
- Yield Time to allow Public Comment per MDC Chair
- 2025 Senate Bill 1020
- Lifelong disabled parking placard for amputees only
- Mark Rosser and Jame Brady scholarship, asking VR and DCPS to push out, no applicants so far
- Sexual Assault Awareness Day – in Atrium today at 12pm with Mayor Deegan
- May 21 CIL Housing Task Force Meeting open to all
- Advocating for universal designing on new builds
- The JTAC Meeting was March 10<sup>th</sup>
- MDC Brochure approved

- ***Adaptive Recreation/Access to Wellness – Ray Pringle***

- Medical Access Symposium – suggestions put together will send recommendations up to the Administration
  - ✓ Kara read out the suggestion write up
  - ✓ There was some discussion about the UF Health Fair and MDC attendance
- Kara gave Parks update on inclusive parks

## **Ad Hoc Reports:**

- ***Duval County Public Schools – Amy Valentine & Rebecca Scissors***

- Will push Mark Rosser and James Brady scholarship
- Parent surveys going out just to provide feedback

# MAYOR'S DISABILITY COUNCIL (MDC)



A NEW DAY.

- High School Graduations – each high school has a graduation coordinator so if guest need to request an accommodation they can through the coordinator
- ***Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Department (JFRD) – Capt. Rickie Grace***
  - Funding received and being processed
  - Getting ready for Jax Ready Fest
  - PATH Team – Handle Homelessness issues
    - ✓ Trying to find housing, etc.
    - ✓ Must have a level of self-sufficiency
    - ✓ Looking for resources – seeking MDC advice/help
      - CIL willing to help per Jose Morales
      - Elder Source and Ability Housing suggested by Natalie Alden
      - All shelter teams are actively working on per Kara
- ***Jacksonville Public Library/Talking Books – Tonja Ferrell***
  - Books by Mail Program – system issues resolved
  - Zoom Text, Magnifiers, and all other additions to Talking Books for the visually impaired
- ***Jacksonville Transportation Authority – Mia Johnson***
  - *Ridership – March*
  - *Trips – 24, 856*
  - *OTP Connexion:*
    - *pick up 88.3%*
    - *Appointments 94.9%*
  - *Call Hold Time – reduced wait*
  - *Reservationist scripts – working on improvements*

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- ***MV Transportation – Fresno Cardona/General Manager***
  - Increased ridership – increased amount of the routes to accommodate the extra ridership and hoping to see better OTP, starts April 6, 2025
  - Scheduling Dept also looking at grouping rides in the same areas
- ***Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) – Gonza Gonzague***
  - New Supervisor for Jacksonville Region
- ***Career Source of NE Florida – Lou Anne Hasty***
  - VR has an opportunity with Social Security with their PATS Program
  - 21 Regions Participating in HOPE Florida for individuals who seem to slip through other opportunities
- ***Brooks Rehabilitation – Megan Hyman***
  - *Not present*

## **Public Comment (Speaker Cards): John Nooney**

- **Spoke on Northeast Florida Regional Council**
  - public access on our water ways and a quality of life improvement

Dan OConnor started a discussion on meeting in the Mayor's Conference Room

- Kara advised on safety reasons, and we still have access to the mayor's conference room
- Natalie stated reasons why she feels we should be in the mayor's conference room

# MAYOR'S DISABILITY COUNCIL (MDC)



A NEW DAY.

- Ray stated safety reasons with being able to exit the mayor's conference room and the building

**Adjourn Meeting at 5:01 motioned by Ray Pringle, seconded by Dan O'Connor**

***Chair:*** Ray Pringle | ***Vice-Chair:*** Stephanie Young

***Members:*** Natalie Alden, Barbara Brown, Teona Haugabook,  
Ron McCauley, Jose Morales, Dan O'Connor & Anida Pollo

**Disabled Services Division (904) 255-5466**