

Brookings Disability Awareness Committee
Date: 7/24/25
Brookings City and County Government Center
520 3rd St, Room 241
Brookings, SD 57006
Phone (605) 692-6281

Attendance: Mark Sternhagen*, Rachel Holm*, Ali Teesdale*, Jennifer Mees*, Arianna Limoges*, Lynda Venhuizen*, Aysia Platte*, Matthew Weiss*, **Jenny Hallan**
SDSU Student: Absent
SDSU Liaison: Jenny Hallan
HRC Liaison: Absent
Library Liaison: Absent
Brookings School District Liaison: Summer Schultz
City Representative: Maureen Simet
Guests:

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM

2. Approval of Items

a. Agenda

i. Adjusted Agenda adding Access Concerns as Item 8

b. Minutes

Motion to approve made by Matt and 2nd Lynda

Yes - Matt, Lynda, Ali, Aysia, Jen, Ari, Mark

No - None

3. Budget Updates

a. Current Balance 2915.25

4. Officer Updates

a. Chair

i. ADA proclamation went well

b. Vice Chair - Absent

c. Recorder

i. Brookings Bonanza Went well in spite of weather delays

ii. Looking at ways to display handouts in future events, will bring ideas/prices to future meeting.

d. Publicity Coordinator

i.

e. SDSU Liaison - Absent

f. City Representative-No Updates

5. ASL Class - No update

6. Speaker - No Speaker

7. Awards

a. Nomination for Keena Melville for A.B.L.E. Award

Motion to approve Able Award Nomination by Ari and 2nd by Lynda

Yes - Matt, Lynda, Ali, Aysia Jen Ari Mark, Rachel

No - None

b. Discussion on nomination of EMPOWER Award

i. Cubby's Nominated as a recipient for EMPOWER Aware

Motion to approve ACCESS Award Nomination by Rachel and 2nd by Ali

Yes - Matt, Lynda, Ali, Aysia Jen Ari Mark, Rachel

No - None

8. Added Agenda Items

a. Access concerns within the community

i. Brookings Liquor store

1. Handicapped parking spot marked on lot, but no vertical sign in place.

2. Issue has been filed with the city.

ii. Brookings Post Office

1. Accessibility to particular drop boxes removed

iii. Hillcrest Aquatic Center

1. Pool Lift

b. Discussion of protocol for when concerns are reported to committee

9. Work Plan Item

a. NDEMA

i. Proclamation in October

10. Events/Publicity Discussion (social Media Campaign)

a. Brochures and Merch to hand out updates sub committee

i. Vinyl Stickers - Jen will research further into options for availability and cost

b. Speaker on disabilities Billie Sutton

i. October 21, 2025 at 7pm Volstorff Ballroom

ii. Collaboration between OMAA, Brookings Disability Awareness Committee, and the Office of Human Resources

c. Events Brookings Bonanza Recap

i. Brookings Bonanza Went well in spite of weather delays

ii. Looking at ways to display handouts in future events, will bring ideas/prices to future meeting.

d. Awards

11. Next Meeting Date/Format August 28, 2025 at 12:00pm

Motion to adjourn made by Matt, 2nd by Lynda