

Name of Committee: Public Awareness

Co-Chair(s): Chris Weis, Craig Dorin

Note taker: N/A

Attendees: Craig Dorin, Chris Weis, Denise Weis, Lola Zographos, Melissa Medice, William Boyce, Bobbi Donovan, Wes Sowers

Check on this attendance

Announcements: Day of Self Discovery tentatively scheduled for May 22, 2008 with a preliminary planning meeting to be held on 2/4/08. More details to follow.

Agenda Item: Identify New Methods or Events for connecting with the public -
AWARENESS EVENT AT THE PITTSBURGH ZOO

Committee Goal Being Addressed: N/A

- Currently the PA team is considering (4) events or awareness activities:
 - Public Awareness event at the Zoo
 - Celebration of Recovery Dinner (fundraiser)
 - Speaker event/series
 - Attend established community events as well as Pittsburgh 250 Celebration

- Bobbi will contact the Allegheny County Library Association to explore the possibility of using them to present a speaker and or series.
- **The committee members favor the zoo awareness event.** Some initial planning steps have been taken to determine likelihood of working with the zoo.
 - **Bobbi made contact** but was directed to speak with the Jamie Szosorak who coordinates special events such as the one the PA is attempting to plan. **She should know more about the possibility by the last week in January.**

- **Members generated ideas about potential groups to invite and issues to represent to create broad appeal for the zoo event:**
 - Veterans Administration – for issues around vets returning from duty and the impact to children and families because of mental health issues resulting from their service
 - MH/DA Court
 - Stigma / bullying
 - Disability Law Project – information about rights, ADA, HIPAA
 - CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) - to inform the public on the education local law enforcement is undergoing to better work with persons with mental disabilities and the benefits to the individuals and community

- **The team desires to have the event before close of the fiscal year. All agreed in order to do this successfully support from the ACCR's other committees will be needed.** The event and planning considerations will need to

be presented to the Steering Committee for discussion and support at the next meeting.

- **Chelsea agreed to get information on the cost of running some public service announcements to generate larger exposure of ACCR's message to the public.** The team considered the possibility of seeking underwriting for the PSA's once costs are determined.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Target Date
Determine if zoo can be used as event venue	Bobbi	2/08
Contact library to determine possibility of holding some type of quarterly public awareness speaker event	Bobbi	2/08
Obtain information on PSA costs and packages	Chelsea	2/08
Attend education committee to explore collaboration on the zoo event	Craig	2/08

Next Meeting Date, Location, and Time:

Tuesday February 5, 2008
Wood Street Commons 4th flr
11:30am – 1:00pm