

Ann Arbor Commission on Disability Issues  
September 15, 2010  
Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Linda Briggs, Marjorie Olivier Cash, Ian Scott, Ramona Williams, Pam Baker-Trostle, Joan Kauffman and Deborah Murray

Commissioners Excused: Helen Meador and Nancy Vandewiele Milligan

Sign Language Interpreter: Tracey Romanow

CTN Camera Operator: Robert Hughes

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Briggs called the meeting to order at 3:16 p.m. The Commissioners individually introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Scott motioned, seconded by Commissioners Murray, that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carries.

III. Presentations

- a. Ira Lax from the Ann Arbor District Library announced upcoming events and books available at the library, and the Washtenaw Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled. Contact [aadl.org](http://aadl.org) or call 327-4200 for a list of current programs.
- b. Les Sipowski from Project Management, City of Ann Arbor presented new pedestrian signal system.
  1. HAWK system will be installed near the YMCA to increase pedestrian opportunities. Les explained how the signal works and that the signal will be paid for by MDOT. The timing will be adjusted to the pace of the local pedestrian population. He will look into the possibility of installing an audible signal to work with the HAWKS system.
  2. Information was also requested about two APS units on State Street. Les explained that the unit on State and William is

operational; and the unit at State and Liberty has been removed and sent for repairs.

3. Commissioner Baker Trostle explained a situation where a pedestrian's electric wheelchair that became stuck in a pothole trying to cross Ann Arbor/Saline Road. Les told the commission about the Pothole Reporting system with a special phone number that can be found on the city's web page.

#### IV. Public Comment - None

- V. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes - Commissioner Baker Trostle motioned, seconded by Commissioners Olivier Cash, that the August 18, 2010 Meeting Minutes be approved as presented. Motion carries.

#### VI. Old Business

##### a. City Personnel Report

1. Still accepting information to update the commission roster.

##### b. Chair Report

1. Draft bylaws – Purpose to standardize all commission bylaws. One issue this commission had with the draft bylaws was all boards/commissions are subject to open meetings act. The committee meetings are held in a variety of places, often with little pre-warning and sometimes over the telephone. To comply with this provision the commission cannot have committee meetings over the telephone. Review over the next month, there is still time to make changes if anyone finds a problem.

##### c. Nominating Committee

1. No meeting, no new applications received.

##### d. Hollywood Committee

1. Self defense classes for the disabled - Working with CIL to organize classes and will also help with advertising.
2. Call or Wellness Tree – purpose to check up on other people to verify the participants on the list are doing okay, or are ill/in need of help. Idea to develop a FAQ sheet on how to develop a Call or Wellness Tree in your neighborhood.

##### e. Partners in Access Committee

1. No meeting, no activity.

2. Waiting for city response on HAWKS system and APS. Next actions to write a letter requesting an APS around the downtown library.
  - i. Re-Charge to write letter to transportation on locations for APS.
- f. Budget Committee – No meeting, no activity.
- g. Emergency Management Sub- Committee
  1. Letter requesting proposed language change regarding service animals on the City's website was sent to EOC.

Chair Briggs officially disbanded this sub-committee.

VII. New Business – None

VIII. Announcements

- a. The National Alliance on Mental Illness – annual conference on November 13<sup>th</sup> – Pathways to Recovery – register with Barb 994-6611 – no cost to attend.
- b. U of M Disability Commission – Disability Week in October focused on veterans. Hope to have more information at October meeting.

IX. Adjournment - Chairperson Briggs adjourned the meeting to closed session at 4:08 p.m.

Submitted by: Janet Carpenter, HR Administrative Coordinator