

# **City of Ann Arbor**

*301 E. Huron St.*

*Ann Arbor, MI 48104*

*<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>*



## **Meeting Minutes - Final**

**Wednesday, December 18, 2019**

**4:00 PM**

**Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Second floor, City Council  
Chambers**

### **Commission on Disability Issues**

**I ROLL CALL**

*Z. Damon called the meeting to order at 4:03pm*

**Present** 7 - Larry Keeler, Sally Petersen, Zachary Damon, Timothy Hull, Debra Poster, Christiana Allen-Pipkin, and Alex Gossage

**Absent** 6 - Nikolas Koscielniak, Kathleen Mozak-Betts, Matthew Solomon, Rachel Hawkins, Kristen Harrison, and Elizabeth Nelson

**II APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*L. Keeler moved to approve the agenda, seconded by D. Poster. All approved on a voice vote.*

**III APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 18 AND NOVEMBER 20 MEETING MINUTES**

*C. Allen-Pipkin moved to approve the September 18 meeting minutes, seconded by A. Gossage. All approved on a voice vote.*

*L. Keeler moved to make changes to the November 20 meeting minutes, seconded by D. Poster. All approved on a voice vote. These changes include adding additional directions in the recruiting section for navigating to the commission website for potential applicants.*

*Z. Damon moved to have the Partners in Access section name L. Keeler the chair, seconded by C. Allen-Pipkin. All approved on a voice vote.*

*L. Keeler moved to approve the November 20 meeting minutes as amended, seconded by D. Poster. All approved on a voice vote.*

**IV PRESENTATIONS****a KATIE MONKIEWICZ; WASHTENAW LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY DISABLED**

*For information on the events that are taking place at the Library, please visit their website at <http://wlbpd.aadl.org/>*

**b      ALEX GOSSAGE; EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANN ARBOR CENTER FOR  
INDEPENDENT LIVING**

*For information on the events that are taking place with the CIL, please  
visit their website  
at <http://www.annarborcil.org/>*

**V      PUBLIC COMMENTS - LIMITED TO EIGHT MINUTES**

*A student from Huron High School introduced themselves to the  
commission and discussed interests with commissioners.*

**VI      OLD BUSINESS**

**a      HB-4738 CROSSWALK LAW**

*Z. Damon discussed the crosswalk law and the importance of addressing  
its impact to the work of the commission for improving accessibility for the  
public.*

*L. Keeler offered to give his opinions next meeting after further  
contemplating the proposed law. T. Hull and S. Petersen provided their  
feedback on the law.*

*Z. Damon wants commissioners to continue reviewing the proposed  
crosswalk law as he would like the commission to form what support or  
opposition the commission wants to put forward in response to the  
proposed law.*

*Per S. Petersen's request for more information, T. Hull and Z. Damon will  
look to get data on the amount of pedestrian crashes in the last 10 years  
to see rate of crashes before and after the local crosswalk ordinance went  
into effect.*

**b      CITY ADA COORDINATOR**

*Per a request received from M. Solomon, Z. Damon discussed the need  
for clarification on what is being done for this position and whether  
compliance is being met. To achieve this, he proposed that the ADA  
coordinator become a regular attendee to the commission meetings  
starting in 2020 and provide updates regarding their activities and  
maintain a regular relationship with good communication. S. Petersen  
voiced concerns over the City not having a position exclusively dedicated  
to handling ADA issues and suggests the commission see if a staff  
position could instead be added to improve the process. Z. Damon will*

*reach out to John Fournier and Jackie Beaudry to discuss this action with them.*

*D. Poster requested clarification on how someone may submit ADA issues; S. Petersen outlined several avenues for her and the public to follow including A2fixit online, or calling the City Customer Service office or the City Clerk's office.*

**c CITY PERSONNEL REPORT - COREY FARRIS**

*No update to report.*

**d CHAIR REPORT - ZACH DAMON**

*Z. Damon delivered the chair report. He discussed the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion focus groups the City held and expressed his interest in the commission joining any further activities for the initiative moving forward. He also announced that the first meeting of the Fuller-Nixon-Traver sidewalk project occurred on December 11th and that he will be keeping the commission informed of updates as the project progresses. Finally, he asked commissioners to let him know of any feedback they may have regarding commission processes in the interest of improving efficiency and operation of commission activities.*

**e COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE/ANN ARBOR INCLUSIVE UPDATE - RACHEL HAWKINS**

*R. Hawkins was not present, but had met with S. Petersen and Linda Evans regarding A2 Inclusive. Z. Damon announced two new episodes coming in December and one in January.*

*He also announced the intention for a public service announcement to be filmed at CTN regarding the commission and requested any interested commissioners to let him know if they would be interested in participating, with L. Keeler, C. Allen-Pipkin and D. Poster voicing their interest. Z. Damon will also email commissioners not present to see if they also might be interested.*

**f PARTNERS IN ACCESS COMMITTEE**

*L. Keeler will be getting committee members together to get the it started again, with the intention to formulate an agenda to start meetings off with.*

**g RECRUITING ACTIVITY - LARRY KEELER**

*L. Keeler gave an update on recruiting activities for the commission. He intends to call previous applicants to see if they might still have interest in serving on the commission in some capacity, such as serving on a committee.*

*Anyone who is interested in applying can do so by contacting the Mayor's office at 734-794-6161, or applying online at <https://a2gov.granicus.com/boards/w/fe6c5e22e6f4a331/vacancies> This site can also be accessed online via the following path:*

- 1. Go to a2gov.org*
- 2. Click "Democracy" in the orange banner at the top of the page*
- 3. Click "Boards and Commissions" under the Meetings column.*
- 4. Scroll down to and click "Commission on Disability Issues" from the alphabetically sorted list.*
- 5. Click the "Apply" button at the upper-right corner of the page.*
- 6. Complete the application, including all required fields, and then click "Submit" at the button of the page.*

*Interested persons may also reach out if they may be interested in serving on subcommittees such as Partners in Access and Community Engagement.*

**1 IMPROVING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CITY AND THE COMMISSION  
REGARDING PROSPECTIVE NEW COMMISSIONERS**

*L. Keeler and E. Nelson to meet in January and discuss the application process further.*

**i TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION UPDATE - TIM HULL**

*T. Hull gave an update on the Transportation Commission, discussing their input on the crosswalk law and presentations they saw from several transportation groups as well as their intention to formulate a 2020 work plan and address the white cane law.*

**j U OF M COUNCIL FOR DISABILITY CONCERNS MEETING UPDATE - KATHLEEN  
MOZAK-BETTS**

*K. Mozak-Betts was not able to attend the meeting; no update to report.*

**VII ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*No announcements were made.*

**VIII NEW BUSINESS**

*No new business was brought forward to the commission.*

**IX ADJOURNMENT**

*Z. Damon adjourned the meeting at 5:02pm*