

Ann Arbor Commission on Disability Issues
June 18, 2014
Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Linda Evans, Alison Stroud, Larry Keeler, Lloyd Shelton,
Amy Shepherd, West Resendes

Commissioners Excused: Sally Petersen

Sign Language Interpreter: John Stuckless and Michelle McCoy

CTN Operator: Robert Hughes

I. Call to Order

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

II. Approval of Agenda

- a. Commissioner Keeler motioned, seconded by Vice Chair Stroud, that the agenda be approved as amended by removing III. Presentations, b. Jeanine Delay – A2 Ethics; moving VII. New Business, b. New Design of Geddes from Huntington to Hickory Lane to VI. Old Business, e. Partners in Access Committee; and removing VII. New Business, a. U of M Council for Disability Concerns June Meeting Minutes. All in favor. Motion carries.

III. Presentations

- a. Ira Lax from the Ann Arbor Public Library announced upcoming events and programs for the month of June at the library, as well as the Washtenaw Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled. Contact aadl.org or call 327-4000 for a list of current programs. 327-4224 to reach Library for the Blind.

IV. Public Comments – None

V. Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes

Commissioner Keeler motioned, seconded by Commissioner Shelton to approve the May 21, 2014 Meeting Minutes as presented. All in favor. Motion carries.

VI. Old Business

a. City Personnel Report – None

b. Chair Report

1. Chairperson Evans requested a roster from the City Liaison, Amy Seavitt, to be created after the July election.
2. Chairpersons Evans noted the bylaw amendment sent out in the packet regarding full voting rights for city council representatives.
3. Chairpersons Evans recapped the Commission retreat that took place, including clarification about the Open Meetings Act.
4. Chairpersons Evans announced the new sign language interpreters from University Translators.
5. Chairperson Evans announced that Community Television Network will begin closed captioning in July for the meetings. It will also include a verbal disclaimer for those who are blind or visually impaired.
6. Chairperson Evans reminded the Commission about the elections next month.

c. Recruiting Committee

1. Commissioner Keeler provided contact information for those interested in being on the Commission. They may contact the City Liaison, Amy Seavitt, at (734) 794-6122 or reach out to the Mayor's Office at (734) 794-6161 for an application. Applications are also available online through the Disability Resources Page.
2. Commissioner Keeler announced that the committee met to work on the new recruiting flyer. The committee intends on distributing copies to organizations with a letter that has been drafted inviting them to join the commission. Commissioner Shepherd read the drafted letter to the Commission.
3. Commissioner Keeler moved to approve the recruiting flyer. Commissioner Shelton seconded. Vice Chair Stroud and Commissioner Resendes suggested several amendments including language changes and grammar corrections. Discussion ensued. All in favor.
4. Commissioner Keeler informed the Commission that the e-mail address that was previously decided on, a2codi@gmail.com, has been

taken. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Keeler moved to accept a2disabilityissues@gmail.com as the new e-mail address. Commissioner Shepherd seconded. All in favor.

d. Community Engagement Committee

1. Chairperson Evans apologized for not updating the Disability Resource website with the A2 Blooms Day event photos and information.
2. Chairperson Evans announced the idea of an Access Ann Arbor how-to show for seniors and how to efficiently use the AAATA Gold Ride system. Vice Chair Stroud and Commissioner Shelton offered to help coordinate the program.

e. Partners in Access Committee

1. Vice Chair Stroud motioned to discuss the best practices e-mail draft for the AAATA official that was included in the packet. Commissioner Shepherd seconded. Discussion ensued. All in favor.
2. Vice Chair Stroud motioned to discuss the drafted letter by Commissioner Shepherd and Chairperson Evans requesting a crosswalk at Huron Parkway near Huron High School. Commissioner Keeler seconded. Discussion ensued. All in favor.
3. Vice Chair Stroud discussed audible pedestrian signals and the potential issues that were brought to the committee's attention. The committee is now in the process of evaluating the intersections and crosswalks that have APS or any device with audible tones.
4. Vice Chair Stroud discussed accessibility issues with Uber and Lyft services. The committee has requested a meeting with the Taxi Cab Board of Ann Arbor to discuss concerns and best practices. Commissioner Resendes suggested contacting Kristen Larcom at the City Attorney's Office as well. Commissioner Resendes motioned to send a revised letter to Kristen Larcom. Commissioner Keeler seconded. Discussion ensued. All in favor.
5. Chairperson Evans announced that the letter and application for the new construction of the sidewalk on Federal and Congress has been sent.
6. Vice Chair Stroud discussed improving accessibility for the city sidewalks along the construction path along Geddes Road between

Huntington and Hickory Road. The committee will send feedback and stay in touch with city officials involved with the construction process.

7. Vice Chair Stroud discussed scheduling follow up meetings with the Ann Arbor Library Board and Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Department.

f. Ad Hoc Committee

1. Chairperson Evans announced that the links for the Disability Resource website are being checked and a list will be sent to Lisa Wondrash from the Communications Department with changes to be made to the page.

g. Voting Committee

1. Commissioner Resendes instructed commission members to submit nominations for chair and vice chair. Nominations may be submitted to Commissioner Resendes or Commissioner Keeler.

VII. New Business

- a. The Commission discussed the suggestion about designating an ending time of 5:15 pm to be put on future agendas. Commissioner Resendes motioned to approve. Commissioner Shepherd seconded. All in favor.

VIII. Announcements

- a. Chairperson Evans announced the Rotary Centennial Family Picnic event at Gallup Park on June 22nd from 4 – 7 pm.
- b. Commissioner Resendes announced the legal workshop for the deaf and hard of hearing community on June 28th from 2 – 4:30 pm at Mallett's Creek Library.

IX. Adjournment – Chairperson Evans adjourned the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

Submitted by: Amy Seavitt, HR Coordinator