

Ann Arbor Commission on Disability Issues
September 19, 2012
Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Linda Evans, Larry Keeler, Gloria Kolb, Patti Smith, Monica Cox, Sally Petersen

Commissioners Excused: Ian Scott, Ramona Williams

Sign Language Interpreter: None

CTN Operator: Robert Hughes

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Evans called the meeting to order at 3:21 p.m. The Commissioners individually introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Keeler motioned, seconded by Commissioner Kolb, that the agenda be approved as amended by changing Section VI. Old Business, c. Recruiting Committee to include 3. Introduce Monica Cox and also in Section VIII. Announcements by adding b. Free Computers to Low Income Earners. Motion carries.

III. Presentations

- a. Ira Lax from the Ann Arbor Public Library addressed the Commission about large print books that are available and can be delivered free of charge. He also gave contact information for the Washtenaw Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled. The public can reach out by phone at (734) 327-4224 or visit the website at <http://wlbpd.aadl.org>. The general number for the Ann Arbor Public Library is (734) 327-4200.

IV. Public Comments – None

V. Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes

Commissioner Keeler motioned, seconded by Commissioner Kolb to approve the July 18, 2012 Meeting Minutes as amended by changing Section VI. Old Business e. 2. Motion carries.

VI. Old Business

- a. City Personnel Report – None
- b. Chair Report
 1. Chairperson Evans reminded the Commission to contact City Liaison, Amy Seavitt, or herself, at least a week prior if a Commissioner cannot attend a meeting.
- c. Recruiting Committee
 1. Commissioner Kolb discussed the meet and greet event the Commission is coordinating, in which the public is invited to come and express any accessibility concerns or issues. The event will take place on Saturday, September 22 from 1-3 pm at 4th and Catherine.
 2. Chairperson Evans formally introduced two new Commissioners, Monica Cox and Sally Hart Peterson.
- d. Hollywood Committee
 1. Chairperson Evans briefly summarized the sensory garden the Commission plans on installing at Liberty Plaza. The featured plants will have distinct textures, smells and bright colors. The Committee is working with the botanical gardens and will hold a special meeting at City Hall to discuss further plans. If the public would like to help with this project, they may reach out to Amy Seavitt, City Liaison, at (734) 794-6122.
- e. Partners in Access Committee
 1. Curb Cut at Hubbard and Green – Commissioner Smith will be overtaking Committee Chair for this project. She updated the Commission that a curb cut has been mapped out and will be completed within a week or thereabouts. There will also be a paved sidewalk.
 2. Audible Pedestrian Signal (APS) at Broadway and Swift – Commissioner Kolb discussed the letter the Committee had drafted and sent to Patrick Cawley. They are waiting to hear back so they may continue with the next steps.

VII. New Business

1. New Ad Hoc Committee, Disability Resources Updating Committee – Chairperson Evans announced the need for a temporary committee until the specific project is completed. The committee would be responsible for updating the Disability Resources website. Commissioner Monica Cox volunteered as the Committee Chair, with Commissioners Patti Smith and Ramona Williams.

VIII. Announcements

- a. Commission Peterson announced the Investing in Ability event beginning October 22nd and going through October 26th at the University of Michigan. More information is available at <http://ability.umich.edu/iaw>.
- b. Chairperson Evans spoke to the Commission about how the Office of Commerce and Economic Development is accepting applications from low income earners to give away free computers. The deadline for turning in the applications is September 26, 2012.

IX. Adjournment – Chairperson Evans adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Submitted by: Amy Seavitt, HR Assistant