

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, November 20, 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 4:00pm. Students from Skyline High School were invited to come up and introduce themselves to the commission.

Present 8 - Larry Keeler, Zachary Damon, Timothy Hull, Kathleen Mozak-Betts, Matthew Solomon, Elizabeth Nelson, Christiana Allen-Pipkin, and Alex Gossage

Absent 5 - Sally Petersen, Nikolas Koscielniak, Rachel Hawkins, Kristen Harrison, and Debra Poster

II APPROVAL OF AGENDA

An item was added to the meeting's agenda to continue discussion regarding the City's ADA coordinator position. L. Keeler moved to approve the agenda, seconded by K. Mozak-Betts. All approved on a voice vote.

III APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 18 AND OCTOBER 16 MEETING MINUTES

M. Soloman raised concerns regarding the level of substance in meeting minutes, particularly with the importance of the current issues surrounding the ADA Coordinator position discussed in the September 18 meeting. Commissioners held discussion on meeting minutes with C. Farris outlining staff liaison directives on taking action minutes and some options they may consider to aid transparency for the public. Z. Damon will follow up with C. Farris and M. Soloman to reach an adequate solution regarding minutes. M. Soloman moved to approve the minutes from October 16 while tabling approving the September 18 meeting minutes pending further discussion, seconded by L. Keeler. All approved on 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; INTERIM 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/>

c ERICA BRIGGS; SPEAKER ON PROPOSED STATE CROSSWALK LAW

Erica Briggs, who was part of the Washtenaw Bicycling and Walking Coalition, provided a background of the crosswalk law (House Bill 4738), issues surrounding it and suggestions for what the commission might want to advocate for, finally answering any questions they might have had afterward. She will try to return next meeting to answer other questions that might come up. Z. Damon also asked commissioners to review the crosswalk law prior to the December 18 meeting, having emailed it out to them prior, so the commission may decide what they want to do regarding an amendment during the next meeting.

V PUBLIC COMMENTS - LIMITED TO EIGHT MINUTES

No comments were brought before the commission.

VI OLD BUSINESS

a CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON CITY ADA COORDINATOR

The commission further discussed questions surrounding the City's ADA Coordinator and the need for more information on the role and how the office has functioned. Z. Damon asked what the resolution might be to solve the issue, with M. Soloman suggesting that he would like to see one of the City's administrators take on dedication to ADA compliance to keep the City compliant. L. Keeler would also like to see the ADA coordinator made a regular attendee of the commission meetings to keep them current on ADA issues.

Z. Damon will be reaching out to John Fournier and Jackie Beaudry on further clarification on the ADA coordinator role and to see if they may be interested in being a regular attendee to present on ADA issues at commission meetings. He will follow up with commissioners via email and at the December meeting.

b CITY PERSONNEL REPORT - COREY FARRIS

No updates to report.

c CHAIR REPORT - ZACH DAMON

Z. Damon delivered the chair report. He made an announcement regarding the open house occurring in City Hall called Moving Together Towards Vision Zero, focusing on the City's new transportation plan. He also asks commissioners to review the crosswalk law HB-4738 between meetings and give feedback to himself and other commissioners. He would like to designate someone on the commission to take the lead on drafting the resolution for the law, working with other commissioners and Erica Briggs, which is to be further discussed along with the proposed law via an item to be added to the December agenda. Finally, Z. Damon announced the City's plan to hold focus groups with different City stakeholders as part of ongoing diversity, equity and inclusion efforts, with commissioners to reach out to the City's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer Sharie Sell if they are interested in participating.

d COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE/ANN ARBOR INCLUSIVE UPDATE - RACHEL HAWKINS

R. Hawkins was not present; no updates to report at this time. She is to finalize calendar for the Community Engagement Subcommittee with C. Farris.

e PARTNERS IN ACCESS COMMITTEE

L. Keeler has been named chair of the Partners in Access subcommittee.

f RECRUITING ACTIVITY - LARRY KEELER

L. Keeler gave an update on recruiting activities for the commission. He announced the confirmation of new commissioner A. Gossage. E. Nelson had gone through applications with L. Keeler, discussing their findings with the commission and requirements for those that serve. He proposed potentially revising the application process to aid visibility in the applications being received for the commission, as their review revealed several applications that were not being forwarded to him. Z. Damon will be following up with the both of them on this issue.

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.

g TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION UPDATE - TIM HULL

T. Hull gave an update on the Transportation Commission, discussing a recommendation they will be bringing up for the policy agenda regarding defining crosswalk to include the curb for the crosswalk law HB-4738, the transportation plan, removal of street parking on Barton Drive and sidewalk/crosswalk prioritization guidelines. Z. Damon encourages T. Hull to let the commission know if there is anything they might do to assist with the guidelines.

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

K. Mozak-Betts provided an update on the U of M Council of Disability Concerns, discussing a new subcommittee that was created with her to give more information on what their focus will be for the year next meeting. She also gave condolences to the unfortunate passing of a past commissioner's husband, Anna Schnitzer. M. Soloman brought up an issue regarding lack of disabled parking on the U of M campus; K. Mozak-Betts suggested reaching out directly to Stephanie Rosen with the group for the best response and offered to bring up this concern at their December meeting.

VII ANNOUNCEMENTS

T. Hull sent out an email related to affordable housing developments and parking lots. He asks for feedback from the commission surrounding what their thoughts are on parking lots being removed in favor of using them for affordable housing structures.

E. Nelson also offers to advocate for the commission for resources as part of the budget process that they would like to address.

VIII NEW BUSINESS

C. Farris to follow up via email with commission regarding staff liasion mandates for meeting minutes.

IX ADJOURNMENT

Z. Damon adjourned the meeting at 5:37pm.