



City of Ann Arbor

Meeting Minutes - Final

Commission on Disability Issues

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

4:00 PM

Electronic Meeting

This meeting will be broadcast live on CTN Cable Channel 16, ATT Channel 99. Online at a2gov.org/watchCTN.

To speak at public comment call Toll Free: 877 853 5247 or 888 788 0099

Enter Meeting ID: 919 8673 1455

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Z. Damon called the electronic meeting of the Commission on Disability Issues to order at 4:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present 11 - Larry Keeler, Zachary Damon, Kathleen Mozak, Matthew Solomon, Rachel Hawkins, Alex Gossage, Ayesha Ghazi Edwin, Rosanita Ratcliff, Robert Packard, Elena Chambers, and Lorraine Buis

Absent 1 - Debra Poster

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per speaker)

No public comment was brought before the commission

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Council Update was moved at the beginning of the Special Presentation section of the agenda after the University of Michigan Department of Robotics presentation.

A motion was made by Damon, seconded by Ratcliff, that the Agenda be approved with changes. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[24-0287](#) Commission on Disability Issues Minutes - February 21, 2024

A motion was made by Keeler, seconded by Mozak, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 4/1/2024. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ROBOTICS PRESENTATION

Michigan Robotics aims to create a collaborative community of roboticists, where through mutual respect, integrity in action, and transparency in thought, they accelerate socially beneficial advances in robotics. For more information please visit the University of Michigan Robotics Department website at <https://robotics.umich.edu/>

[24-0372](#) UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN ROBOTICS PRESENTATION

CITY COUNCIL UPDATE - AYESHA GHAZI EDWIN

Council Member Ayesha Ghazi-Edwin reported that she has been working with the City Accessibility Coordinator regarding the concerns related City Hall parking. Tracy Byrd shared that she had a meeting with the City Deputy Administrator and the City will be ordering blue bricks to mark the accessible parking spots aisles. More information and details to come. Council Member Ayesha Ghazi-Edwin shared that City Council is working on policies around snow management. Current recommendations are being reviewed. Tracy Byrd shared that she had a meeting with the Office of Community Standards Enforcement to discuss the snow match program. More information and details to come. Council Member Ayesha Ghazi-Edwin reported that the City of Ann Arbor is working to pass an ordinance protecting the right sit for employee's during their work hours. Current ideas and input are in legal review. Council Member Ayesha Ghazi-Edwin stated that Ann Arbor Housing Commission is potentially considering creating an affordable housing list for the City of Ann Arbor. A meeting will be scheduled with the Ann Arbor Housing Commission to discuss the potential list.

WASHTENAW LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED - KATIE MONKIEWICZ

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

DISABILITY NETWORK (Washtenaw, Monroe, Livingston) - ANDREA HENRY

For information on the events that are taking place with the Disability Network, please visit their website at <http://DNWML.org>

PARTNERS IN ACCESS - LARRY KEELER

Vice-Chair Keeler reported that the sub-committee did meet last week and discussed concerns related to accessibility issues at the Michigan and State Theater. More information and details to come. The sub-committee did not have an update on concerns related to City Hall parking during the meeting. Those who are interested in participating, or leading a committee can contact Vice Chair Keeler for more information.

Present 10 - Larry Keeler, Kathleen Mozak, Matthew Solomon, Rachel Hawkins, Alex Gossage, Ayesha Ghazi Edwin, Rosanita Ratcliff, Robert Packard, Elena Chambers, and Lorraine Buis

Absent 2 - Zachary Damon, and Debra Poster

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - RACHEL HAWKINS

Commissioner Hawkins reported that the Ann Arbor Inclusion has a new host. Ann Arbor CTN will be recording the Ann Arbor Inclusion sessions moving forward. The organizations is still planning to record monthly sessions. More information and details to come.

RECRUITING ACTIVITY - LARRY KEELER

Vice-Chair Keeler reported that recruitment for the Commission has been steady recently. The Commission currently has 1 vacancy to fill.

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 "Board 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.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION UPDATE - LARRY KEELER

Vice-Chair Keeler reported that the Transportation Commission discussed several street coming projects. The Transportation Commission also discussed speed reduction and carbon reduction in the City of Ann Arbor. Vice-Chair Keeler shared that the Transportation Commission has a Trains Not Lane's project. The project focuses on connecting buses and trains to have access along the express to make routes more quicker. More information and details to come. The Transportation Commission is meeting tonight at 7:00pm and the meeting will be live on CTN.

U OF M COUNCIL FOR DISABILITY CONCERNS MEETING UPDATE - MATTHEW SOLOMON

Commissioner Solomon was unable to attend the University of Michigan Council for Disability Concerns meeting to provide an update. Chair Damon attended the meeting and provided the meeting minutes from the University of Michigan Council for Disability Concerns to the commission.

[24-0387](#) 2024-3 CfDC March Meeting Agenda

ORGANIZATIONAL EQUITY - TRACY BYRD

Tracy Byrd reported that she has meet with a few of the Ann Arbor Housing Commission staff to discuss working with residents regarding concerns with accessibility issues with the City. In addition, Tracy Byrd shared that in celebration of Disability Awareness Month in July there will be an art exhibit hosted in City Hall with artist from Disability Network of Washtenaw Monroe Livingston. More details and information to come. Tracy Byrd also reported that she is working with Disability Network to create educational resources to train city staff on accessibility and disability awareness.

CITY PERSONNEL REPORT - KENNEDI CUMMINGS

Kennedi Cummings reported that the new Ann Arbor Police Chief is planning to attend an upcoming commission meeting. The Police Chief would like to do a brief introduction to the commission. More details and information to come.

CHAIR REPORT - ZACH DAMON

Chair Damon was not present to provide an update.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Ratcliff shared that the Ann Arbor Renters Commission meeting Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 7:30pm. The meeting will be held on zoom.

ADJOURNMENT

Ratcliff moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mozak the meeting adjourned at 5:20 P.M.

All persons are encouraged to participate in public meetings. Citizens requiring translation or sign language services or other reasonable accommodations may contact the City Clerk's office at 734.794.6140; via e-mail to: cityclerk@a2gov.org; or by written request addressed and mailed or delivered to:

**City Clerk's Office
301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104**

Requests made with less than two business days' notice may not be able to be accommodated.