

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

3:15 PM

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

Disability Issues, Commission on

I **ROLL CALL**

Sally Petersen called the meeting to order at 3:15 pm in Council Chambers of City Hall.

Present 7 - Larry Keeler, Anna Ercoli-Schnitzer, Sally Hart Petersen, VACANT POSITION 1, Zachary Damon, Albert Blixt, and Rebecca Benedict

Absent 2 - Larry Leon Davis, and Kirk Westphal

II **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A. Stroud made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by L. Keeler. All approved on a voice vote.

III **APPROVAL OF JUNE 15 MEETING MINUTES**

S. Petersen had one correction to the announcement section. H. Koch had recorded that the event that A. Schnitzer discussed took place in November, but it takes place annually in October.

L. Keeler made a motion to approve as amended, seconded by Z. Damon. All approved as amended on a voice vote.

IV **PRESENTATIONS****a** **Ira Lax, Washtenaw Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled**

Ira gave an update on the events for September at the Washtenaw Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled. For a complete list of events and new book lists, please visit <http://wlbpd.aadl.org/>.

b **AAPD Chief James Baird - Update on Disability Awareness Training for AAPD and Use of Disability Resource Cards**

Police Chief Baird discussed the use of the Disability Resource Cards throughout the Ann Arbor Police Department. Chief Baird is looking for feedback from the Commission on how the AAPD can improve services to those who are disabled, and from members of the public. Chief Baird mentioned that 1000 Disability Resource Cards were originally ordered earlier this year, and all 1000 cards have been handed out at this time. There are 1000 more cards on order that the Police Department will be handing out. Chief Baird left a few business cards so that anyone who

wishes to provide feedback can do so at anytime.

c Nick Hutchinson, City Engineer, City of Ann Arbor

- Presentation on Nixon/Green/Dhu Varren Roundabout (30 Min)

- Discussion Regarding Crosswalk Uniformity (15 Min)

- Presentation on Nixon/Green/Dhu Varren Roundabout

Steve Loveland from OHM Advisors began the presentation, as he is one of the leaders in the roundabout project. The team working on this project is seeking feedback about the roundabout. The project managers who presented mentioned that there has been a lot of fear from residents who live nearby regarding the flow of traffic, and inaccessibility issues that it might cause. There are also big concerns regarding crossing the road and how it will be safe for everyone. Information about the project can be found at a2gov.org/nixon.

- Discussion Regarding Crosswalk Uniformity

Cynthia Redinger gave an update on crosswalk uniformity. She spoke to the commission earlier this year regarding ideas for the project. The next steps for the project are to develop a draft of the guidelines, and they are also going to be developing a city-wide survey so that members of the public who are unable to make it to the meetings are able to participate. They hope to present the final guidelines for the crosswalks in November, and have the design changes finalized by January.

If anyone would like to make a request about crosswalks or sidewalks, please contact Nick Hutchinson, City Engineer at: nhutchinson@a2gov.org

V PUBLIC COMMENTS - LIMITED TO EIGHT MINUTES

1. Cathy Griswold

VI OLD BUSINESS

a City Personnel Report - Heather Koch

b Chair Report - Sally Petersen, Chair

The sensory garden event in September was very successful, and Sally would like to publicly thank Linda Evans for all her work on the event. She also thanked Linda Evans and L. Keeler for their work on gathering food and refreshments for the event.

S. Petersen put together a summary of the Commission on Disability Issues for the Sensory Garden Event. She will do this for City Council if there is an interest for it. She is asking the chair of each sub-committee to put together a summary of the sub-committees, including accomplishments of the past year, goals for the future, and possible challenges the sub-committees might face accomplishing these goals.

c Community Engagement Committee - Sally Petersen

The next Community Engagement meeting is tomorrow at 5:30 pm.

Z. Damon extended an invitation to Chief Baird to join them on Ann Arbor Inclusive show to discuss what the Ann Arbor Police Department is doing to help people with disabilities in the community. He also discussed the past few episodes of Ann Arbor Inclusive, one which included Bobby Schwartz, who flew out from his home in New Jersey to be on the show.

d Partners in Access Committee - Alison Stroud

A. Stroud presented a letter written by A. Schnitzer about the issues with the Michigan Flyer/AirRide system's accessibility for everyone. A. Stroud asked the commission for feedback or suggestions about the letter before it is sent. If the letter is approved today it will be sent to the Department of Justice, upon other recipients.

L. Keeler made a motion to approve sending the letter, seconded by Z. Damon. S. Petersen asked for additional comments.

S. Petersen would like the letter to include more of a description about how the current situation is contrary to ADA regulations, as A. Schnitzer mentioned. She would also like to add clarity about what problems this situation is creating. A. Stroud will send the letter around after the changes are made.

S. Petersen moves to approve sending the letter with edits, seconded by L. Keeler. All approved on a voice vote.

A. Stroud will also move forward with sending the Closed Captioning Ordinance to Sally for commission approval. She did not have any negative feedback or any suggestions for changes.

A. Stroud also discussed the AAATA's plans for training their drivers on disability issues. The Partners in Access committee has been working very hard with the AAATA, and will continue this work.

e Recruiting Activity - Larry Keeler

If anyone is interested in applying for the Commission on Disability Issues please contact the Mayor's office. The application for boards and commissions has been updated to include willingness for applicants to disclose disabilities for Federal ADA requirements.

VII ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Schnitzer discussed the events going on at U of M. Please see the attached flyers regarding these events.

VIII NEW BUSINESS

a University of Michigan Council on Disability Concerns Minutes and Updates

IX ADJOURNMENT

S. Petersen adjourned the meeting at 5:14 pm.

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**City Clerk's Office
301 E. Huron St.
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