

Ann Arbor Commission on Disability Issues
October 15, 2014
Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Linda Evans, West Resendes, Amy Shepherd, Sally Petersen, Larry Keeler
Commissioners Excused: Anna Schnitzer, Alison Stroud, Lloyd Shelton
Sign Language Interpreter: Tammy Carmichail and Kathy Cherico
CTN Operator: Jason Broniak

I. Roll Call

Vice Chairperson Evans called the meeting to order at 3:22 p.m. The Commissioners individually introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Shepherd motioned, seconded by Commissioner Keeler, to approve the September 17, 2014 Meeting Minutes as amended by changing g. Voting Committee and h. Bylaw Review Committee. All in favor. Motion carries.

III. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Keeler motioned, seconded by Commissioner Resendes, that the agenda be approved as amended by adding John Krienke from the Ann Arbor Host Lion's Club to IV. Presentations. All in favor. Motion carries.

IV. Presentations

- a. Ira Lax from the Ann Arbor Public Library announced upcoming events and programs for the month of October 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.
- b. John Krienke from the Ann Arbor Host Lion's Club spoke to the Commission about White Cane Safety Day, which falls on October 15. He also explained the history of the white cane, as well as the Lion's Club history with helping people with vision difficulties.

V. Public Comments

- a. Stephanie Samuels, a student advocate, explained her interest in joining the Commission on Disability Issues.

VI. Old Business

- b. City Personnel Report – None

- c. Chair Report

- i. Vice Chairperson Evans welcomed new commission member Anna Schnitzer.
- ii. Vice Chairperson Evans reminded commission members and viewers that the next two meetings on November 19 and December 17 will be moved to CTN. CTN is located 2805 South Industrial Highway.

- d. Recruiting Committee

- i. Commissioner Keeler announced contact information for Amy Seavitt, City Liaison, at (734) 794-6122 or for the Mayor's Office at (734) 794-6161. Those interested may also visit the Disability Resources Page or email a2disabilityissues@gmail.com.
- ii. Commissioner Keeler announced that three people were interested in looking into the Commission from the Gmail address after the emails and flyers were distributed.
- iii. Commissioner Stroud requested that she be invited to the next committee meeting so that she may share ideas.

- e. Community Engagement Committee

- i. Vice Chairperson Evans discussed the request to speak at an Eastern Michigan University class about disabilities on December 1. There will be a panel of people with various disabilities, along with a moderator who will ask predetermined questions. A question and answer session will take place afterwards based on student feedback.
- ii. Vice Chairperson Evans reminded viewers that the committee is willing to connect with support groups at their meetings and talk about the Commission and disabilities. Those interested may

contact the City Liaison or email a2disabilityissues@gmail.com.

f. Partners in Access

- i. Commissioner Stroud thanked Vice Chairperson Evans for committee report the prior month.
- ii. Commissioner Stroud gave an update on the accessible pedestrian signal. The commission evaluated several pedestrian crossing devices. Results may be presented to the city official and advise them to fix and update the devices as necessary.
- iii. Vice Chairperson Evans gave an update on the State Street crosswalk. Vice Chairperson Evans is working with Eli Cooper from the City and is waiting on a rescheduled date to do a walking audit of State Street between I-94 and Ellsworth.
- iv. Commissioner Stroud announced that she would need to step down as chairperson of the committee. Vice Chairperson Evans has volunteered to step in as the new chairperson. Commissioner Stroud thanked everyone for working with her.

g. Ad Hoc Updating Resource Page Committee

- i. Vice Chairperson Evans said the site was delayed and is finishing up the final checking of the information that was gathered.

h. Voting Committee

- i. Vice Chairperson Evans discussed the memo to vote for Chair. Commissioner Petersen is running for Chair and Commissioner Resendes has dropped his candidacy. Vice Chairperson Evans moved to hold the vote off due to a conflict of interest. Commissioner Shepherd motioned, Commissioner Keeler seconded. Discussion ensued. All in favor. Motion carries.

i. Bylaw Review Committee

- i. Commissioner Shepherd announced that there was no feedback yet from the City Attorney's Office.
- ii. Vice Chairperson Evans noted that she received a review of the bylaws from Mary Fales at the City Attorney's Office with proposed

changes. An update that will be included in the packet should be given at the November or December meeting.

VI. New Business – None

VII. Announcements

- a. Commissioner Schnitzer announced the U of M Disability Awareness Month. The theme this year is “Is Addiction a Disability?”
- b. Commissioner Keeler announced that it is Meet the Blind Month.
- c. Commissioner Schnitzer announced the boarding area change for AirRide. It is currently in the courts and a verdict will be announced soon.

VIII. Adjournment – Vice Chairperson Evans adjourned the meeting at 4:48 p.m.

Submitted by: Amy Seavitt, HR Coordinator