



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, November 15, 2023

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 4:01 P.M.

ROLL CALL

All Commissioner participating remotely from Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, Michigan.

Present 9 - Larry Keeler, Zachary Damon, Kathleen Mozak, Matthew Solomon, Rachel Hawkins, Alex Gossage, Rosanita Ratcliff, Robert Packard, and Elena Chambers

Absent 2 - Debra Poster, and Ayesha Ghazi Edwin

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per speaker)

No public comment was brought before the commission

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mozak, seconded by Keeler, that the Agenda be approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[23-1813](#) Commission on Disability Issues Minutes - October 18, 2023

A motion was made by Mozak, seconded by Ratcliff, that the

Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 11/20/2023. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Downtown Development Authority Presentation

The mission of the Ann Arbor Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is to undertake public improvements that have the greatest impact in strengthening the downtown area and attracting new private investments. For more information please visit the DDA website at <https://www.a2dda.org/>

WASHTENAW LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY 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/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT//RECRUITING ACTIVITY - ALEX GOSSAGE, RACHEL HAWKINS AND LARRY KEELER

Partners in Access: Vice-Chair Keeler reported that the sub-committee has not meet since the last meeting but still has meetings scheduled for December.

Community Engagement/Ann Arbor Inclusive: Commissioner Hawkins reported that the Ann Arbor Inclusion is officially back. The organizations goal is to have monthly recording sessions.

Recruiting: Vice-Chair Keeler reported that recruiting for the Commission has been very active. Recruitment is currently reviewing candidate applications and has an upcoming interview. The Commission currently has 2 vacancies 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 completed the review of a resolution to amend the bylaws. The Transportation Commission is continuing to work on road diets in the City in regards to traffic concerns. Vice-Chair Keeler shared that he expressed the concerns of the Commission to the Transportation Commission in regards to sidewalk and parking spots issues. More information and updates to come.

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

Commissioner Solomon reported that the UM Council for Disability Concerns met yesterday and discussed the new location of the Natural History Museum. The new location of the Natural History Museum is 1105 North University Avenue Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1085 in the Biological Sciences Building. For more information about the Natural History Museum please visit the website at <https://lsa.umich.edu/ummnh>.

ORGANIZATIONAL EQUITY - TRACY BYRD

Tracy Byrd reported that she has started doing tours of the facilities and parks as part of the transitional plan. The transitional plan is to have facilities and parks be ADA compliant and accessible. Tracy Byrd shared that she is looking forward to the Commissions guidance and support as the process begins. More information and details to come.

CITY PERSONNEL REPORT - KENNEDI CUMMINGS

Kennedi Cummings reported that the City of Ann Arbor is still searching for a Police Chief. The City is finalizing the search for Police Chief candidates. More information and updates to come. There is no additional city personal report or updates at this time.

CHAIR REPORT - ZACH DAMON

Chair Damon reported that the commission had a working session meeting to discuss the commissions website accessibility. Commissioners are welcomed to submit additional suggestions and feedback to update the commission website. Chair Damon shared ideas and input of commissioners who attended the working session meeting for the commission website. Chair Damon will follow up with the City Communication department for assistances with social media and promotion activities of the commission. More information and updates to come.

CITY COUNCIL UPDATE - AYESHA GHAZI EDWIN

Council Member Ayesha Ghazi-Edwin was not present to provide an update.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

2024 Calendar - Commission on Disability Issues & Partners In Access Subcommittee

23-1827 2024 Calendar - Commission on Disability Issues

The June 19, 2024 Commission on Disability Issues Meeting will be held on June 26, 2024.

A motion was made by Mozak, seconded by Keeler, that the 2024 Calendar - Commission on Disability Issues be Approved with changes. On a voice vote, the Commission declared the motion carried.

23-1828 2024- Calendar Partners In Access Subcommittee

2024 - Calendar of the Partners In Access Subcommittee will be voted on at the December 2023 commission meeting.

A motion was made by Damon, seconded by Hawkins, that the Partners in Access Subcommittee meeting be held on the second Thursday of the month at 5:00 P.M. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Mozak shared that the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority Local Advisory Council is looking for members and executive committee members. The advisory council meets the second Tuesday of every month via Zoom from 1:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. For more information please visit their website at <https://www.theride.org/> or you can call for more information at 734-973-6500.

ADJOURNMENT

Damon moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Keeler. Meeting adjourned at 5:36 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.
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Requests made with less than two business days' notice may not be able to be accommodated.