



City of Ann Arbor

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Commission on Disability Issues

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

Wednesday, February 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

Z. Damon called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present all participants from Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, MI.

Present 7 - Larry Keeler, Zachary Damon, Kathleen Mozak, Matthew Solomon, Rachel Hawkins, Christiana Allen-Pipkin, and Ayesha Ghazi Edwin

Absent 3 - Debra Poster, Alex Gossage, and Kinsey Button

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved as presented

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[23-0229](#) CODI January 2023 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mozak, seconded by Keeler, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 3/20/2023. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was brought before the commission.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**Aimee Metzger, Interim Chief of Police**

Interim Chief A. Metzger gave a brief introduction about some of the experiences that led to her career in law enforcement and encourage the commission to reach out to the AAPD with any questions or concerns.

Laura Orta, Director of Organizational Equity

L. Orta gave an update on the hiring progress for the ADA coordinator. The proposal is getting close to a final draft. L. Orta will be meeting with the City's compensation team in the next few weeks to discuss what grade/ level and pay range this position will be given. If the commission is interested in adding any feedback or details to the proposal, please reach out to Laura. Z. Damon suggest this hire has extensive ADA law background in order to understand and sort policies that would help incorporate the needs the City might require. The position should be posted by May 1st, commissioners requested to participate in the interview process.

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/>

ANN ARBOR CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING - JOYCE BLAIR

For information on the events that are taking place with the CIL, please visit their website at <http://www.annarborcil.org/>

PARTNERS IN ACCESS/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - ALEX GOSSAGE & RACHEL HAWKINS

Partners in Access: R. Hawkins reported the commissioners discussed personnel and how the commission is ready to vote on a current applicant. L. Keeler discussed how the City has urged the public to write -in and validate the need for new APS signals in the community. They reviewed free accessible handicap parking spots in condo's.

Community Engagement: R. Hawkins reported their guest for February's Ann Arbor Inclusive is the Center for Independent Living (CIL). They plan to discuss the Safe Connection Program. This show will premier on Friday, February 17th at 4 p.m. on CTN channel 16.

RECRUITING ACTIVITY - LARRY KEELER

L. Keeler reported that CODI plans to vote in a new commissioner: Rosanita Radcliff at today's meeting. We are presently in the process of reviewing another applicant and reaching out to a third.

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

L. Keeler provided an update on the Transportation Commission. At last months meeting the year end report was tabled, to make minor changes. The commission discussed the Policy Report, Rail Roads Crossings, Vision Zero, Speed Control, Public Awareness-Crash Data, Streets, Roads and Stroads. Focus on resurfacing Parkway, Washington and Getty in the immediate future . Install more APS Signals and complete sidewalk gaps. AAATA buses have experience changes, 50 percent less crashes. The City has start work on Ypsilanti and Blake Transit Centers. There is also time for commission concerns at the end of each meeting.

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

M. Solomon provided an update on the Council for Disability Concerns. The Council viewed a presentation about Matthaël Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum they discussed how to best center disability in their Diversity/Inclusion efforts. Also, thinking about how they can do a better job of engaging the community in their facilities with accommodating and inclusiveness in that space. The community input is welcome. The council is exploring Disability Mentoring particularly in the areas of leadership and advocacy were discussed for people with

disabilities.

CITY PERSONNEL REPORT - DENISE JEANES

D. Jeanes gave an update on the latest hires and retirements at City Hall.

CHAIR REPORT - ZACH DAMON

Z. Damon gave the chair report. The Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living (CIL) is having two Theater Dialogue Sessions. The first session will be on Monday, March 13th at 6:00 p.m. The second session is virtual on Friday, March 24th at noon. They are trying to survey how the theater program at the CIL can continually be effective? What does the community find inclusive and good recreation opportunities for the center? Please give your feedback, it will be helpful to this program. For more information ,contact Robin Bennett@aacil.org

OLD BUSINESS

Vote on CODI Candidate, Rosanita Ratcliff

L. Keeler moved to open the floor for a vote on candidate Rosanita Radcliff, seconded by K. Mozak. The commission voted to send R. Radcliff application to the Mayor's office for approval. L. Keeler suggested the commission should formalize recruiting procedures at next month meeting and if any commissioners would like to review new candidates application after they appear at the meeting, please let him know. M. Solomon suggested to the commission, we invite potential applicants to attend and listen in on our meeting to see if this is a commission they want to participate in.

NEW BUSINESS

A.Ghazi-Edwin gave a Council update on Property Taxes Discount. The City requires individuals to be 100 percent disabled by the Veterans Administration Status. The Ann Arbor City Treasurer confirmed these facts because this items fall under State law, essentially property taxes would have to commiserate with a persons VA Disability Status. A. Ghazi-Edwin has reached out to Michigan State Representatives for review, potentially changes are coming.

COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Christiana Allen-Pipkin has formally resigned from the Commission. Z. Damon thanked her for her service.

ADJOURNMENT

*L. Keeler moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Z. Damon.
Meeting adjourned at 5:35 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**

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