



# 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>

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Wednesday, September 18, 2024

4:00 PM

Electronic Meeting

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This meeting will be broadcast live on CTN Cable Channel 16, ATT Channel 99. Online at [a2gov.org/watchCTN](http://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 4:05 P.M.*

#### ROLL CALL

**Present** 10 - Larry Keeler, Zachary Damon, Kathleen Mozak, Matthew Solomon, Rachel Hawkins, Ayesha Ghazi Edwin, Rosanita Ratcliff, Elena Chambers, Lorraine Buis, and Sam Ankenbauer

**Absent** 2 - Alex Gossage, and Robert Packard

#### PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per speaker)

*No public comment was brought before the commission.*

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**24-1508** Commission on Disability Issues Minutes - June 26, 2024

**A motion was made by Ratcliff, seconded by Keeler, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City**

Council and should be returned by 10/07/2024. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

#### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

##### **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 issue of stair steps on third street and possibility having window sign announcements at the Michigan Theater designed for announcing commission meetings and community events. The sub-committee also discussed concerns related to accessibility at the State and Michigan theaters, accessible parking down town and City Hall, and AATA bus stop route announcements. Those who are interested in participating, or leading a committee can contact Vice Chair Keeler for more information.*

##### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - RACHEL HAWKINS**

*Commissioner Hawkins reported that the Ann Arbor Inclusion July show which featured the Kirk Gibson Foundation for Parkinson's and the August show featured the No Obstacles Band. Ann Arbor Inclusion is currently working on the September episode. More information and details to come.*

##### **RECRUITING ACTIVITY - LARRY KEELER**

*Vice-Chair Keeler reported that the commission currently has one vacancy to fill. The commission received three candidate applications. Recruitment for the Commission interviewed one of the candidates and will be introducing the candidate at the next commission meeting.*

*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](https://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 street resurfacing projects and speed reduction. The Transportation Commission also discussed adding additional bike lanes and different types of crosswalk signals in the city. 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 had no updates to provide to the commission from the University of Michigan Council for Disability Concerns.

[24-1446](#) July CfDC Slides and notes

[24-1611](#) August CfDC Slides and notes

#### **ORGANIZATIONAL EQUITY - TRACY BYRD**

Tracy Byrd was not present to provide an update.

#### **CITY PERSONNEL REPORT - KENNEDI CUMMINGS**

*Kennedi Cummings reported that there is no city personnel report or updates at this time.*

**CHAIR REPORT - ZACH DAMON**

*Chair Damon reported on Monday, September 16, 2024 the chair spoke in support of the "Right to Sit" resolution, advocating for more accessible and inclusive seating options at workplaces. Chair Damon also shared that the Disability Network for Theatre Be's Fall Kickoff event on is Monday, September 23, 2024 from 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM. All are welcomed to attend. Chair Damon reminded commissioners to Register for the Inclusive Production Workplace Workshop with Disability Belongs. Learn how to build a more inclusive environment for workers with disabilities in the entertainment industry. The event will be held on Thursday, September 19, 2024 from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. PT / 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. ET. Chair Damon discussed that commissions input is essential. When opportunities arise for the commissions input, commissioners must act swiftly and contribute their insights to drive positive change.*

**CITY COUNCIL UPDATE - AYESHA GHAZI EDWIN**

*Council Member Ayesha Ghazi-Edwin Council reported that the City of Ann Arbor ordinance protecting the right sit for employee's during their work hours has been postponed. The ordinance will be brought back to City Council on at their next meeting on Monday, October 7, 2024. More information and details to come.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

*None*

**NEW BUSINESS**

*None*

**COMMUNICATIONS**

*None*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Keeler moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ratcliff the meeting adjourned at 5:05 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](mailto:cityclerk@a2gov.org); or by written request addressed and mailed or delivered to:

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