



# 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](http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx)

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Wednesday, December 20, 2023

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 4:01 P.M.*

#### ROLL CALL

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

**Present** 9 - Larry Keeler, Zachary Damon, Kathleen Mozak, Matthew Solomon, Alex Gossage, Ayesha Ghazi Edwin, Rosanita Ratcliff, Robert Packard, and Elena Chambers

**Absent** 2 - Rachel Hawkins, and Debra Poster

#### 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

**[23-2008](#)** Commission on Disability Issues Minutes - November 15, 2023

**A motion was made by Packard, seconded by Damon, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 1/8/2024. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.**

#### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

##### **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 - LARRY KEELER**

*Vice-Chair Keeler reported that the sub-committee did not have a December meeting. The sub-committee will be scheduled to meet on the second Thursday of month in 2024.*

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

*Commissioner Hawkins was not present to provide an update.*

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

*Vice-Chair Keeler reported that recruitment for the Commission has been very active. The Commission has received new commission applications. Recruitment is reviewing the candidate applications to schedule interviews. 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](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 introduced a new work plan that will be voted on in January. The Transportation Commission also discussed the curbside project and provided an update. Vice-Chair Keeler shared that the Transportation Commission is discussing adding separate bikeways downtown and automatic pedestrian signals. In addition, the Transportation Commission is also working on having better healthy streets.*

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

*Commissioner Solomon was unable to attend the University of Michigan Council for Disability Concerns meeting to provide an update. The meeting minutes from the University of Michigan Council for Disability Concerns meeting was provided to the commission.*

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

*Tracy Byrd reported that there is no organizational equity report or updates at this time.*

#### **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 that feedback and comments portion of the U.S. Census has closed. The U.S. Census proposed a different set of disability function options that citizens can report. Chair Damon shared that the Ann Arbor Bicentennial kickoff celebration will be held on Friday, January 19 2024, from 6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. at the Michigan Theater. All*

*are welcomed to attend. Chair Damon also discussed the City Snow Match program. The program assist residents 55 years of age or self identify as having a disability, with snow removal resources and volunteer services. For information or questions about the Snow Match program please email [a2snowmatch@a2gov.org](mailto:a2snowmatch@a2gov.org).*

#### **CITY COUNCIL UPDATE - AYESHA GHAZI EDWIN**

*Council Member Ayesha Ghazi-Edwin reported that the City banned gas powered leaf blowers. In addition City Council and the Ann Arbor Housing Commission will be working on building a list of accessibly housing units. More details and information to come.*

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

*None*

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **2024- Calendar Partners In Access Subcommittee**

[23-2009](#) 2024- Calendar Partners In Access Subcommittee

**A motion was made by Keeler, seconded by Mozak, that the 2024 Calendar for the Partners in Access Subcommittee be Approved. On a voice vote, the Commission declared the motion carried.**

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

*Chair Damon shared that on Friday, January 5, 2024 the Michigan Theater will be hosting red carpet premiere of an independent Rom-Com "Get Real". Chair Damon is a supporting actor in the project. All are welcomed to attend.*

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

*Keeler moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ratcliff meeting adjourned at 4:50 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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