



# 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, February 21, 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 4:00 P.M.*

#### ROLL CALL

**Present** 12 - Larry Keeler, Zachary Damon, Kathleen Mozak, Matthew Solomon, Rachel Hawkins, Debra Poster, Alex Gossage, Ayesha Ghazi Edwin, Rosanita Ratcliff, Robert Packard, Elena Chambers, and Lorraine Buis

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

*No public comment was brought before the commission.*

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**[24-0094](#)** Commission on Disability Issues Minutes - January 17, 2024

**A motion was made by Ratcliff, seconded by Chambers, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 3/4/2024. On a voice vote, the**

**Chair declared the motion carried.**

#### **New Commission Candidate Introduction**

##### **24-0115 New Commission Candidate Introduction**

*Chair Damon did an introduction of commission candidate to the entire commission. The candidate application has been reviewed and the candidate was interviewed by Chair Zach Damon and Vice Chair Larry Keeler. The candidate provided the commission with a brief introduction of themselves and their background on disability issues.*

#### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

##### **FEMA- OFFICE OF DISABILITY INTEGRATION AND COORDINATION**

*The Office of Disability Integration and Coordination helps FEMA deliver the agency's shared mission of helping people before, during and after disasters in ways that maximize the inclusion of, and accessibility for, people with disabilities. For more information please visit the FEMA website at <https://www.fema.gov/about/offices/disability>*

##### **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 City Hall parking. The sub-committee also discussed concerns related to accessibility issues at the Michigan and State Theater. 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 is recording sessions this month. The organizations is planning to have monthly recording sessions. More information and details to come.*

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

*Vice-Chair Keeler reported that recruitment for the Commission has been steady recently. The Commission currently has 1 vacancy 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 had their commission election. In addition, the Transportation Commission also approved their annual report and state report. Vice-Chair Keeler reported that the Transportation Commission is planning to do revisions on various streets and bikeway lanes. More information and details to come.*

#### **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 she has spoken to those responsible for parking at City Hall. Tracy Byrd requested that Council Member Ghazi Edwin submit an RFI to the City of Ann Arbor regarding the current construct of the brick pavers and accessible parking signs. The brick pavers and accessible parking signs are causing parking issues at City Hall. Tracy Byrd shared that she has completed the physical tours of the City's polling locations for accessibility. No major issues were found with any of the polling locations that were visited. Tracy Byrd stated that she submitted an information, technology, and accessibility policy. The policy will ensure that the City website and other technology resources are in ADA compliance. The policy is currently in legal review. More information and details to come. Tracy asked commission to review the 2010 ADA standard for accessible design for public entities and public accommodations.*

**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 shared that the 4th Annual Nothing About Us Without Us Virtual Film Festival is approaching. The Nothing About Us Without Us Virtual Film Festival is an extremely impactful virtual event and that is building every year to be a great platform for artists and films on the subject of disability and inclusion. All are welcomed to attend the event in April.*

**A motion was made by Keeler, seconded by Mozak, that Sam Ankenbauer application be approved as a new commissioner on the Commission on Disability Issues. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.**

**CITY COUNCIL UPDATE - AYESHA GHAZI EDWIN**

*Council Member Ayesha Ghazi-Edwin reported that the City of Ann Arbor is working to pass an ordinance protecting the right sit for employee's during their work hours. Current ideas and input are in legal review. More information and details are to come. Council Member Ayesha Ghazi-Edwin stated that Ann Arbor Housing Commission is potentially considering creating an affordable housing list for the City of Ann Arbor. A meeting will be scheduled with the Ann Arbor Housing Commission to*

*discuss the potential list. More information and details are to come.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

*None*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ANN ARBOR FIRE DEPARTMENT - LIFT ASSIST DISCUSSION**

*Chief Mike Kennedy presented and discussed the Substitute Resolution Fire Department Lift Assist. Chief Mike Kennedy also shared the revised draft of the Lift Assist resolution with the commission. Commissioners provided Chief Kennedy with their thoughts and feedback.*

[24-0203](#) DRAFT Revised 5.06 Lift Assists

[24-0202](#) 20240304 Substitute Resolution Fire Department Lift Assist

**COMMUNICATIONS**

*None*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Damon moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mozak the meeting adjourned at 6:00 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:**

**City Clerk's Office  
301 E. Huron St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104**

**Requests made with less than two business days' notice may not be able to be accommodated.**