

Ann Arbor Commission on Disability Issues  
January 15, 2014  
Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Linda Evans, Larry Keeler, Sally Petersen, Amy Shepherd,  
Alison Stroud, Lloyd Shelton

Commissioners Excused: None

Sign Language Interpreter: None

CTN Operator: Robert Hughes

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Evans called the meeting to order at 3:17 p.m. The Commissioners individually introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Keeler motioned, seconded by Commissioner Shepherd, that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carries.

III. Presentations

- a. Ira Lax and Katie Chynoweth from the Ann Arbor Public Library announced upcoming events and programs at the library, as well as the Washtenaw Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled. Contact [aadl.org](http://aadl.org) or call 327-4000 for a list of current programs. 327-4224 to reach Library for the Blind.
- b. Colin Smith, Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Services Manager, as well as Karen Kerry, Chair of the Centennial Project Committee of the Ann Arbor Rotary Club, discussed a universal access playground that will be constructed at Gallup Park.

IV. Public Comments

- a. Sharon Pedersen, the Executive Director of Partners in Personal Assistance, discussed the nonprofit organization.

V. Approval of Previous Meetings Minutes

Commissioner Shepherd motioned, seconded by Commissioner Keeler to approve the December 18, 2013 Meeting Minutes as amended by moving VII. New Business part C. to VIII. Announcements. All in favor. Motion carries.

VI. Old Business

a. City Personnel Report

1. An updated roster with all listed committees and their respective chairs will be coordinated and sent out.

b. Chair Report

1. Chairperson Evans discussed the former Commissioner, Verna Spayth, that had passed away and announced funeral services.
2. Chairperson Evans reminded Commission members to be mindful of the various disability types of those in the Commission.

c. Recruiting Committee

1. Commissioner Keeler announced there was no activity and gave his contact information. City Liaison, Amy Seavitt, gave contact information. Chairperson Evans also informed that those interested in being on the Commission may reach out to the Mayor's Office at (734) 794-6161 for an application and distributed a link to the Disability Resources website.
2. Commissioner Petersen commented on the open positions on the Commission and will make an announcement at the upcoming City Council meeting. She also suggested reaching out to WISD, the Washtenaw Intermediate School District. Commissioner Shepherd will mention need for additional commissioners at WISD meeting. Shepherd also said she would put a notice on listserv.

d. Hollywood Committee

1. Commissioner Stroud offered assistance to the committee.

e. Partners in Access Committee

1. Commissioner Stroud discussed the Ann Arbor District Library Board meeting that took place.
2. Commissioner Stroud commented on potential new business for the committee. Potential new business includes the following topics: APS,

AAATA next steps plans, and availability of notes from last committee meeting for any who wishes to have them.

3. Commissioner Stroud updated the Commission on letters that will be sent out to Michael Nearing and Lisa Wondrash.

f. Ad Hoc Committee

1. Chairperson Evans announced that the Disability Resource website will be fully updated soon.
2. Chairperson Evans requested any suggestions for the universal access playground at Gallup Park be sent to City Liaison, Amy Seavitt.

VII. New Business

- a. The Commission discussed snow removal in the city.

VIII. Announcements

- a. Commissioner Petersen updated the Commission on the previous University of Michigan Council for Disability Concerns meeting.
- b. Commissioner Shepherd announced the Washtenaw Intermediate School District Leo's Club.
- c. Commissioner Shelton announced a student disabilities support group at the University Michigan.
- d. Chairperson Evans announced the Next to Normal performance at the Ann Arbor Civic Theater.

IX. Adjournment – Chairperson Evans adjourned the meeting at 4:48 p.m.

Submitted by: Amy Seavitt, HR Coordinator