



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>

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

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

Chair Z. Damon called the electronic meeting of the Commission on Disability Issues to order at 4:03 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present 11 - Larry Keeler, Zachary Damon, Kathleen Mozak, Matthew Solomon, Rachel Hawkins, Alex Gossage, Ayesha Ghazi Edwin, Rosanita Ratcliff, Robert Packard, Elena Chambers, and Sam Ankenbauer

Absent 1 - Lorraine Buis

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per speaker)

None

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

[24-1740](#) Commission on Disability Issues Minutes - September 18, 2024

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 12/02/2024. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

[24-1864](#) Commission on Disability Issues Minutes - October 16, 2024

A motion was made by Damon, seconded by Packard, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 12/02/2024. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

New Commission Candidate Introduction

[24-1932](#) 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

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 received updates about the accessible parking down town at City Hall, and the stair steps on third street. The sub-committee also discussed the AATA bus stop route announcements and the window sign announcements at the Michigan Theater. The sign will be used to announce commission meetings and community events. 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 has recorded the November episode. All information and details of the Ann Arbor Inclusion episodes is available online on Youtube.

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*
- 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 met last week and discussed street resurfacing projects and speed reduction. The commission also discussed bike lanes concerns and adding crosswalk signals in the city. 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 reported that the University of Michigan Council for Disability Concerns did not meet this month.

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 report that he had the opportunity to present at the 2024 James T. Neubacher Award Ceremony.

Chair Damon congratulated Council Liaison Ayesha Ghazi Edwin on receiving the well-deserved recognition. Chair Damon highlighted the November 18 celebration of Washtenaw County achieving Destination Verified Status with Wheel the World. A special thanks was extended to fellow Commissioner Alex Gossage, Executive Director of Disability Network Washtenaw Monroe Livingston, for his dedication and contributions to this achievement. Chair Damon mentioned the upcoming "Couple Classic" U-M Wheelchair Rugby Tournament, taking place December 7 and 8 at Saline Middle School, and encouraged attendance and support for the exciting event.

A motion was made by Damon, seconded by Ratcliff, that Annika Konrad 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 Council reported that the City of Ann Arbor ordinance protecting the right to sit for employee's is passed. Council Member Edwin also shared that the Downtown Developed Authority is adding 68 accessible parking spaces by the end of next year. The Downtown Developed Authority will be implementing new standards over the next year. More information and details to come.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

2025 Calendar - Commission on Disability Issues

24-1930 2025 Calendar - Commission on Disability Issues

A motion was made by Damon, seconded by Keeler, that the 2025 Calendar - Commission on Disability Issues be Approved with changes. On a voice vote, the Commission declared the motion carried

2025 Calendar - Partners In Access Subcommittee

24-1931 2025 - Calendar Partners in Access

A motion was made by Mozak, seconded by Keeler that the 2025 Calendar for the Partners in Access Subcommittee be Approved. On a voice vote, the Commission declared the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Keeler moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Keeler the meeting adjourned at 5:06 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**

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