

# City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
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## Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

3:15 PM

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Second floor, City Council  
Chambers

**Disability Issues, Commission on**

**I ROLL CALL**

**Present** 8 - Larry Keeler, Anna Ercoli-Schnitzer, Sally Hart Petersen, VACANT POSITION 1, Zachary Damon, VACANT POSITION 2, Kirk Westphal, and Albert Blixt

**Absent** 4 - Alison Stroud, Westley Resendes, Larry Leon Davis, and Rebecca Benedict

**II APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*A. Blixt moved to approve, seconded by L. Keeler. All approved on a voice vote.*

**III APPROVAL OF MAY 18 MEETING MINUTES**

*L. Keeler suggested correcting Mark's name under the Partners in Access Committee section.*

*L. Keeler moved to approve as amended, seconded by Z. Damon. All approved as amended on a voice vote.*

**Approved with changes**

[16-0907](#)

Ann Arbor Commission on Disability Issues, May 18, 2016, Meeting Minutes

*Forwarded*

**Approved by the Commission and forwarded**

**IV PRESENTATIONS**

**a Ira Lax, Washtenaw Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled**

*Ira gave an update on the events for June at the Washtenaw Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled.*

*Starting Friday, June 17, the Summer Reading Game starts, and will last the duration of the summer. Please visit the website for more information.*

**V PUBLIC COMMENTS - LIMITED TO EIGHT MINUTES**

**VI OLD BUSINESS**

**a City Personnel Report - Heather Koch**

*Nothing to report.*

**b Chair Report - Sally Petersen, Chair**

*S. Petersen read an update from Ann Arbor Police Chief, Jim Baird, on the Disability Training and Disability Awareness Cards, as well as the new sidewalk ordinance. Chief Baird was unable to attend the meeting due to other obligations.*

*Project Management and City Engineer, Nick Hutchinson, has asked the Commission for feedback on the roundabout on Nixon Road. They would specifically like input on accessibility issues due to the roundabout. S. Petersen has invited them to come in September or October to speak to the Commission.*

*There is an ordinance that will be presented to City Council to disband the Taxicab Board and replace it with a Transportation Commission. One spot on the Commission will be reserved for someone on the Disabilities Commission.*

**c Community Engagement Committee - Zach Damon**

*Last meeting was held on May 26.*

*A student from Huron High School was present and discussed the "Project Unify" initiative in Ann Arbor. Project Unify brings middle and high school students into the awareness of the Special Olympics.*

*Linda Evans gave an update about the Sensory Garden. The Commission will most likely attend a Sensory Garden celebration in the Fall.*

*L. Keeler attended the Bloomsday event, and he said it was very successful.*

*Z. Damon gave an update about Ann Arbor Inclusive. Episode 10 was just filmed, and Taylor Tompkins, Coordinator for Diabetes Prevention Program at YMCA, was a guest on the show.*

*Z. Damon also spoke about a new project, titled "Ann Arbor Tonight". This would be a program that anyone in Ann Arbor would be able to engage in. He is hoping to get support from the Commission.*

*Next meeting is on Thursday at 5:30 in Council Chambers at City Hall.*

**d Partners In Access Committee - West Resendes and Alison Stroud**

*The Closed Captioning Ordinance was drafted by Chris Frost of the City Attorney's office. This ordinance has not been formally reviewed yet, however W. Resendes and A. Stroud have briefly reviewed it. S. Petersen gave an update on potential concerns within the ordinance from W. Resendes and A. Stroud, but overall the Partners in Access Committee thinks that this is a very good ordinance.*

*S. Petersen recommends that the ordinance should go back to the Partners in Access Committee for review, as it has only been out for a short time. Councilmember Westphal suggested that the PIA committee also attempt to get feedback from local businesses, as well as feedback from Community Standards about how it will be accepted. The goal will be to have it ready to send to City Council in October. W. Resendes has also suggested that this ordinance be given to City Council followed by a press release.*

*A. Stroud sent a message to S. Petersen to read to the Commission. A. Stroud would like to have three or four meetings this summer, while the Commission is not meeting during July or August. She gave an update on the sidewalk issue in Ann Arbor, and the work they have done with AAATA.*

[16-0914](#)

Ann Arbor Commission on Disability Issues, Closed Captioning Ordinance, June 2016 - DRAFT

**e Recruiting Activity - Larry Keeler**

*There are a few applicants. If anyone is interested in applying, please contact the Mayor's Office.*

**VII ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*A. Schnitzer discussed the U of M Council for Disabilities sub-committee that organizes an event every November. "Diversity includes disability, and disability includes diversity" is the theme for this year. She will keep the Commission updated on the details of the event.*

*L. Shelton announced that he will be resigning from the Commission, as his three year tenure has ended. He wanted the Commission to know how grateful he was for everything that the Commission has done for him and for the community.*

**VIII NEW BUSINESS**

**a University of Michigan Council on Disability Concerns Minutes and Updates**

*L. Keeler suggested that the Commission on Disability Issues get together with the University of Michigan Council on Disability Concerns for a small gathering or picnic to network with them. S. Petersen and A. Schnitzer will discuss this with their respective groups.*

[16-0908](#)

University of Michigan Council for Disability Concerns, May Meeting Minutes

[16-0909](#)

University of Michigan Council for Disability Concerns, June Meeting Minutes

**IX ADJOURNMENT**

*S. Petersen adjourned the meeting at 4:28 pm.*