

Commission on Disability Concerns Meeting Minutes April 2, 2009

6:30 p.m.
Board Room
Tempe Public Library,
3500 So. Rural Road, Tempe AZ

(MEMBERS) Present:

Chair Mason Murphy, Co Vice-Chair Robert Kizere, Jacque Olsen, José De la Torre, Cyndi Newburn, Aaron Edgell, Matthew Jellison

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Co Vice-Chair Nora Nuñez, Darrell Shandrow, Linda Bergevin, Janie Shelton, Frank Emery, Liz Perez, Chelsea Chamberlain

Staff Present:

Karl Stephens, ADA Compliance Specialist

Guests present:

None

Meeting not officially called to order by Chair Mason Murphy.

Public Appearances:

Visitor Ed Mitchell

No Quorum Present; No Official Business Conducted

- **Consideration of Meeting Minutes:** Consideration of Meeting Minutes: 2/5/09 Draft Commission minutes; 11/20/08 and 2/19/09 Draft Architectural Compliance Committee minutes; 2/18/09 Draft Awards Committee minutes

No Action Taken

1. Discussion of how to best increase Commission meeting attendance / participation; brainstorm ways to re-energize the work that the Commission accomplishes.

Because of the lack of a quorum (*defined by the City of Tempe Boards and Commissions Guide as 'the term used to represent a simple majority of the membership of a committee needed to begin conducting official business'*) once again, there was a great deal of frustration expressed that this "body must

decide if it wishes to accomplish anything or simply stop meeting.”

- One point expressed is that ‘we need to be sure that everyone is reminded of their need to participate or leave the Commission.’ (*current Ordinance No. 2008.01 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Tempe, Arizona, Amending Chapter 2, Article V, Chapter 15 Article II, and Chapter 23, Article II of the City of Tempe Code, by adding, amending and repealing various sections relating to the standardizations of the City’s Board and Commissions policies and procedures. Article V. Boards and Commissions, etc. Division 1. Generally; Sec. 2-181. Powers and Duties. (4) To require attendance of the members at regular meetings and provide that absence from three (3) consecutive regular meetings or six (6) meetings within any twelve (12) month time period without consent from the Chairman or Vice-Chairman if the Chairman is unavailable, shall be deemed to constitute a resignation and such position shall thereupon be deemed vacant.*)

When staff asked for guidance, Deputy City Clerk Connie Krosschell responded that while the definition of quorum is clear and not open for negotiation (*simple majority of membership, in this case 14 at the present time*), the Ordinance provision requiring attendance is also clear and should be enforced. The Chair and/or Vice Chair is the person with the responsibility to monitor and approve the excused and unexcused absences.

No Official Reports Were Presented.

2. Report from the Committee on Architectural Accessibility – Jacque Olsen
3. Tempe Rental Housing Concerns – Aaron Edgell
4. Dial a Ride Update – Darrell Shandrow
5. Vial of Life Update – Staff report
6. Mayor’s Awards Committee Update – Janie Shelton
7. Report from the Child-Ability Committee - Linda Bergevin
8. Parks and Recreation Committee Update – Frank Emery
9. Discussion of 2008 Community Survey results (handout).
10. Update on the ADA Compliance Specialist position – Position has been restored by City Council action to retain these duties.

Diversity/ADA Office Updates – Karl Stephens

Topics for Future Meetings: May 7, 2009 – Greg Jordan, City of Tempe Transit Administrator: re: Changes to Dial-A-Ride Program; Tom Canasi, Community Services Manager: Accessibility of renovated Historic Museum and the renovated Tempe Library

Topics for Future Meetings:

- Tom Canasi, Community Services Manager: Accessibility of Historic Museum and the renovated Tempe Library

Prepared by: Karl Stephens

 Karl W. Stephens
Staff Liaison, ADA Compliance Specialist

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