Tempe

Minutes
Commission on Disability Concerns
October 16, 2007

Minutes of the Commission on Disability Concerns meeting held on October 16, 2007, 7:00 p.m., at the Tempe Public Library, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:
Mason Murphy, Matthew Jellison, Nora Nunez, Larry Randall, Jacque Olsen, Linda Bergevin, Tom Ringhofer

(MEMBERS) Absent:
Paul Bennewitz, Frank Emery, Co Vice-Chair Darrell Shandrow, Chair Janie Shelton

Staff Present:
Karl Stephens, ADA Compliance Specialist

Guests present:
None

Meeting convened at 7:09 p.m. Co Vice-Chair Mason Murphy called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes:
Commissioner Matthew Jellison moved that the minutes from September 2007 be approved. Commissioner Nora Nunez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Appearances:
ASU student – class assignment to observe a Commission meeting

1. Dial-A-Ride – Darrell Shandrow

- Chair Mason Murphy gave brief comment that Commissioner Shandrow had planned to report on his July update discussion with Dial-A-Ride.
- Commissioner Randall asked for information from Dial-A-Ride regarding their input on how they will cooperate with local Emergency Management officials in providing rides for ADA eligible riders if they need to be evacuated to shelters in the event of an emergency, even if that means across City borders.

2. Vial of Life – Larry Randall

- Commissioner Larry Randall will bring vials to each Commissioner at the November meeting. He will also contact the Marketing Director at Tempe St. Lukes Hospital before since they not provided the updated forms, as promised. The Diversity office has also not received the updated forms, so that they can be translated into Spanish.

3. Report from the Child-Ability Committee – Linda Bergevin

- Commissioner Linda Bergevin updated everyone on the status of the idea for a community survey to better assess the needs of the many Tempe families who have children with significant disabilities requiring high levels of care. The intention is to find

out what type of services and assistance that the City of Tempe may be able to provide for these families. Commissioner Bergevin feels that there is a large gap of services for children in the 6-12 year old age group. She is asking for the other Commissioners to support her proposal to draft a survey document that focuses on school aged children with an "Individual Education Plan (IEP) and with the assistance of the Diversity Department, move the proposal through the City system to ultimately bring it before the City Council for their support.

4. Report from the Committee on Architectural Accessibility – Tom Ringhofer

- Commissioner Ringhofer reported significant concerns related to no sidewalk access on a vacant lot north of the Post Office on Priest north of Warner. This is a very bad situation with no firm, stable ground, much less a sidewalk. This situation exists because of no improvements made to the property. Commissioner Ringhofer will be meeting with some City officials that may be able to help with this situation.
- The Broadway Apartments situation is also not resolved because the roadway and sidewalks are so uneven, as is the poor lighting. The situation is quite dangerous for people with disabilities who use mobility equipment.
- More information is being sought about speed bumps and how they can be managed in relation to hindering accessible pathways. It is unclear about how this can be regulated on private property.

Parks and Recreation Committee Update -

- No official report in Commissioner Emery's absence. Some background information was presented by the Staff Liaison regarding the mutual September 20 meeting with Mr. Frank Granillo, City of Tempe Parks Board member. This meeting was also attended by Commissioner Larry Randall. The scope of that meeting for Commissioner Emery was to present his hope that the Parks Board would ultimately be persuaded to support the ADA guidelines for all Parks and Recreation facilities in Tempe. The guidelines are in place but they have not been mandated by the federal Department of Justice as yet. Commissioner Randall expressed serious concerns about the fiscal responsibilities related to having the City adopt ADA Standards for Parks and Recreation without the federal mandate from DOJ. He suggested working toward the same goal through the Parks Board commitment to upgrade facilities on a continual basis as funds are available each year.

Diversity/ADA Office Update

Staff Liaison Karl Stephens made the following announcements:

- The City has launched a formal Board and Commission orientation training. Staff will email the Commission members when the dates to sign up for the training are available.

Topics for Future Meetings:

Staff Liaison Karl Stephens asked the commission to email any topics or ideas on guest speakers for future commission meetings. Some topics suggested include: Scholarships for the Disability Awards, Dial-A-Ride, and Lightrail. Incidentally, the Disability Awards Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 1, 2007 at 3:30pm. The commission would like this topic on the agenda for the November meeting.

Meeting adjourned 8:46 PM

Prepared by: Karl Stephens

Karl Stephens

Staff Liaison, ADA Compliance Specialist