

City of Duluth
Commission on Disabilities
Monthly Meeting
May 2, 2012

CORRECTED COPY

Melissa Booth	P	Amber Madoll	P
Clara Borrell	E	Francis McGee	E
Roberta Cich	P	Beverly Strongitharm	P
Erica Erickson	P	Karin Swor	P
Sister Mary Carla Flood	E	Randall Vogt	P
Lindsey Harkreader	E	Derek Uttley	E
Sara Junge	P	Gerald Salveson	P
Ray Kleveter	P	Bob Grytdahl-Staff	P
Lars Kuehnow	P		

Roll Call

1. Approval of April Minutes/Current Agenda

Changes to April minutes: Lars should be marked as excused, Amber's last name is spelled incorrectly on page. *Motion made to approve minutes as amended by Gerald Salveson and seconded by Bev Strongitharm. Minutes approved.* Added to the agenda for today: parking update, West Duluth mortuary building update, accessible transportation work group. *Motion to amend the agenda by Lars Kuehnow and seconded by Karin Swor. Motion passed.*

2. Correspondence

St Louis County health and human services conference flyer. Proposals for break out sessions due at the end of the month. Bob shared the commission's history participating in this conference.

3. Signage Requests

- a. Brian S. Johnson - 1020 ½ E. 6th Street - Erica had not been able to reach the resident directly. Hard to justify more signage as it already exists on the avenue/street, and the resident has an off street parking spot with accessible signage. Vote tabled until next month in hopes of speaking to the resident.
- b. Prince of Peace Fellowship Church - 1830 E. 1st Street - This is a business requesting signage, and we are unclear at this time about our role in evaluating signage for a business. It was decided this request should go back to engineering as such and the Commission will pursue future discussion with Steve Goman about editing the guidelines for reviewing all signage requests as there have been a number of challenges recently.

4. Action and Advocacy Reports

- a. Review letter, re: voter ID law - Draft letter shared written by Amber Madoll and Sister Mary Carla regarding the voter registration issue. Feedback was provided and Amber to draft a second copy for review next meeting. There was discussion about

Commission on Disabilities
Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2012

writing an educational piece for the newspaper in the summer.

- b. Kearns and Co. Airshow Building – No new update. There has not been a change in use per building official.
- c. Taxi Task Force - Arc Northland, Shane L, and Bob Grytdahl will head the task force to assess the need for accessible taxi cab service in the area.

The City Council recommends that the Commission on Disabilities partner with Arc Northland to establish a task force to assess the need for accessible taxi service, and submit the results of the assessment to the City Council. The Commission had a task force before. The obstacle to getting accessible taxi service was financing. It cost more to maintain accessible vehicles. Custom Cab had an accessible taxi, but that vehicle broke down.

Roberta made a motion to establish a task force to partner with Arc and other disabilities organizations to study the need for accessible taxi service in Duluth and present the findings to city council for further action. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Public Comment

Roberta Cich voiced opposition to holding the commission meeting in a location like the Radisson that has repeatedly refused to comply with ADA legislation and accessibility recommendations.

Roberta Cich made a motion to not meet at the Radisson because of violations of the ADA. Lars Kuehnw seconded the motion. Discussion: Some commissioners feel we need to show we support businesses who abide by ADA guidelines. Others like the location the meeting was held at today. Vote: 6 aye; 1 opposed; 1 abstained. Motion carries to not meet at the Radisson for Commission meetings.

Bob and group assessed the parking that is accessible and available around City Hall. We will continue to search for alternate, more accessible locations, for our monthly meetings. Lars Kuehnw volunteered to look into the Ordean Building, but until further notice we will continue meeting at City Hall.

6. Other Business

- a. Parking assessment - They're going to put four spots in back of City Hall, four (4) accessible spots behind the county courthouse. The Civic Center has access to City Hall with the accessible ramp. Members brought up that accessibility needs to be within 200 feet to accommodate those who aren't able to walk long distances.
- b. Health and Human Services Conference - Amber Madoll is willing to do a general proposal, and would like help from other commission members. Lars Kuehnw and

Commission on Disabilities
Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2012

Roberta Cich volunteered. Bob Grytdahl will try finding money for a table.

- c. Meeting time change – Sara Junge proposed changing the commission meeting time from 3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. We'll vote at the next meeting.

7. Announcements

- a. The MS Walk is this Sunday, May 6. Register at 9:00 a.m. at the Hampton Inn.
- b. Americorps Opportunities to get people to tutor math/reading in order to close the achievement gap. \$1,000/month plus \$5,000 to student loans. See email that Bob sent for more information.
- c. The first Saturday in June is National Trail Day being celebrated at Hartley Field. Randy Vogt will email a summer schedule.
- d. Honor Flight – May 15th – The Honor Flight is looking for people to greet veterans upon their return to the Duluth International Airport, at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Booth
Secretary

MB:jm