

City of Duluth
Commission on Disabilities
Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2011

Melissa Booth	P	Francis McGee	P
Clara Borrell	P	Patti Nadeau	P
Debra Burmeister	A	Tony Rubin	P
Roberta Cich	P	Beverly Strongitharm	P
Erica Erickson	P	Karin Swor	P
Lindsey Harkreader	E	Glenn Tridgell	P
Sara Junge	P	Randall Vogt	P
Durbin Keeney	P	Galen White	P
Lars Kuehnow	A	Bob Grytdahl-Staff	E

1. April Minutes/May Agenda

Amendments to April minutes: Change “senior social workers” to “senior social work students.”
Minutes approved as amended. Agenda approved as written.

2. Presentation- Andy McDonald, Regional Development Commission-Duluth Sidewalk Study

Andy explained what the Duluth Sidewalk Study is, and how it works. The city is creating an inventory of the city sidewalks, and will create a priority list of sidewalks needing repair. The purpose of this study is to find the most efficient way to spend limited resources for sidewalk improvement. The study involves two phases. Phase one includes rating the conditions of the city sidewalks. Phase two involves determining where stakeholders travel to and from by sidewalk. More information on this study can be found at <http://www.dsmic.org>.

3. Action Reports

A. Parks and Recreation -- There is a change to the Spirit Mountain master plan. There are plans to add a zipline, mini golf course, and making these additions accessible. Patti Nadeau suggested we invite a representative to a future commission meeting to talk about some of these changes. Sara Junge will check into inviting someone.

B. Duluth Digs Update – Drew wants to talk to the city to see if they will take on the AmeriCorps project.

C. Accessibility & Tourism Task Force – There is a tentative meeting planned with Visit Duluth to discuss publishing some accessible trail maps.

D. DECC/Denfeld Auditorium – Galen White will schedule a meeting with Bev Strongitharm and Karin Swor to visit Denfeld.

4. Commission Projects for the next year –

It was suggested that we keep last year’s goals and change the action steps for this year. Durbin Keeney suggested we be more proactive in advocacy. He gave an example of where

we could do this, involving a for-profit recycling agency in Minneapolis that has set up boxes around town for clothing donations. Erica Erickson volunteered to write a letter to the Editor of the Duluth News Tribune to advocate for our local agencies in need of clothing donations. A drafted version of the letter will be sent to Sara Junge and Galen White for final approval.

Durbin Keeney made a motion to endorse Erica Erickson writing a letter to the editor of the Duluth News Tribune. Randy Vogt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Roberta Cich made a motion to keep the same five (5) goals for the next year and complete action steps as we go along. Glenn Tridgell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

6. Other Business

Karin Swor knows of a group that is looking for someone in West Duluth who is in need of a ramp for their home. Contact Patti Nadeau or Karin Swor if you know someone who could use the ramp.

7. Announcements

A. Custom Cab has oil changes for \$10.

B. May 14th –Honor Flight. Need people who could be at the airport at 10:30 p.m. to welcome our heroes back.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Booth
Secretary

MB:jm