

City of Duluth
Commission on Disabilities
Monthly Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2013

CORRECTED COPY

Melissa Booth	P	Amber Madoll	A
Michelle McDonald	P	Francis McGee	A
Roberta Cich	P	Beverly Strongitharm	P
Erica Erickson	P	Karin Swor	E
Amanda Crosby	P	Randall Vogt	A
Derek Uttley	P	Amy Hill	P
Gerald Salveson	P	Bob Grytdahl - Staff	P

Roll Call- All members present gave a brief overview of advocacy work they have been working on over the past month.

1. Approval of June Minutes & Current Agenda --
June minutes approved as amended, current agenda approved with date correction of August 7, 2013.
2. Signage Requests -
 - a. Terence Brouse - 513 Spear Avenue - Erica Erickson recommended approval. Amy Hill seconded the recommendation. The signage recommendation was approved unanimously.
 - b. Linda Lamere -923 Lake Ave. S. – Derek Uttley accepted the assignment to visit the residence.
 - c. 2319 W. 3rd Street – Amanda Crosby accepted the assignment to visit the residence.
3. Discussion with City Building Official - The building official was unable to attend due to a conflict in schedule.
4. Action and Advocacy Reports
 - a. Taxi Task Force - There were no new reports.
 - b. Accessibility Code – Gerald Salveson reported that the People with Disabilities for Change (PDC) group has been visiting restaurants to check out their accessibility for customers. They're hoping to provide Visit Duluth with information on accessible restaurants. Gerald mentioned the Riverside Bar and Grill in West Duluth and their need for signage to indicate where the accessible entrance is located. Gerald and Beverly noted that the Italian Village in West Duluth does not have accessible bathrooms.

Community members are reminded to contact The Great Lakes ADA Center with questions about ADA issues. The contact information is: www.adagreatlakes.org , which serves as a good resource for ADA questions. The Great Lakes ADA Center can also be reached by phone at (800) 949-4232 (V/TTY). A real person will answer the phone. There is an accessibility guide for businesses on the MN State Council on Disability website: <http://www.disability.state.mn.us/accessibility>.

The ADA Guide for Small Businesses can be located on the ADA website at <http://www.ada.gov/smbusgd.pdf>
 - c. Parks and Recreation - Erica Erickson reported that they have been going over mini master plans. Lester Park just opened their new playground. Gerald Salveson inquired about funds for accessible swings. Erica suggested there may be grant money available. The Parks and

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Recreation Commission meets the second Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. at various locations. The August meeting will be held at Endion Park.

5. St. Louis County Health and Human Services Conference (Oct. 17-18) --
It's too late to submit for a break out session. Talk with Gerry and Beverly if you would like to join PDC. They meet the 4th Friday of the month from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Miller Dwan.
6. Public Comment
There was no public comment.
7. Other Business
 - a. Elections for school board and city council are coming up. During candidate forums and screenings, have questions prepared to ask the candidates about issues of concern.
 - b. On Tuesday, August 13th there is a listening session scheduled regarding Olmstead. The Olmstead decision ruled that the institutionalization of people with disabilities who can be served in a community setting is a violation of the ADA. Minnesota is required to put an Olmstead plan together as part of a class action lawsuit.
 - c. The Age and Disability Odyssey brought accessibility issues to the DECC regarding signage and issues of accessibility. They were told that the issues would be addressed before the next Health and Human Services Conference.

Erica mentioned that it would be beneficial for Visit Duluth to have a member from the Disabilities Commission on their planning committee. Michelle suggested the Attractions Council may benefit from the same.

Erica Erickson proposed a resolution to write a letter to Visit Duluth and the Attractions Council, suggesting an individual from the disabilities commission with accessibility expertise be included in their committees. Roberta Cich seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Erica will bring the letter to the next commission meeting.

8. Announcements
 - a. PDC is holding a fund-raiser at Mr. D's on August 27th from 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. There will be belly dancers and a silent auction.
 - b. On August 23rd from 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. MAC-V is having their Stand Down at the Depot for veterans and their families. There is expected to be 70 providers available to provide legal advice, benefits information, free haircuts and other resources.

Beverly Strongitharm motioned to adjourn the meeting. Michelle seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Booth
Secretary

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