



City of Duluth
Commission on Disabilities
Monthly Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2017

Amber Madoll	P	Amanda Crosby	P
Beverly Richardson	P	Ann Roscoe	P
Amy Burke	P	Carl Crawford – Staff	P
Gerald Salveson	A		
Randall Voigt	E		
Michelle McDonald	E		

1. **Welcome**

The Commission welcomed:

- Cindy Voigt- city of Duluth Engineering Division
- Dwight Morrison- Wheels on Trails
- Alison Clark-Friends of the Lake Walk member
- Mike Casey-Friends of Wester Duluth Parks and Trails member
- Jim Filby-Williams-director of Parks and Rec
- Mark Bauer - Duluth Police Department's Parking Division.
- Josh Gorham-St. Louis County

2. **Approval of Minutes & Current Agenda**

Ann called the June 2017 meeting to order at 3 p.m.

Amy motioned to approve the June agenda as amended and Amber seconded the motion.

Amy approved the May 2017 minutes and Bev seconded the motion.

3. **Public Comment**

4. See current disability issues

5. **Current Disability Issues**

Cindy Voigt gave an over view of the ADA Transition plan for Duluth streets and right of ways. Cindy handed out surveys and a link to an online survey monkey and asked us to assist with getting public comment and opinion moving forward with the transition plan. Cindy also encouraged the commission to mark with a red dot on a map of Duluth where we have concerns about accessibility and universal design.

Dwight Morrison came forward to discuss some concerns he has about accessibility on the Cross City Trail and Western Waterfront Trail's mini master plans. Dwight also has concerns about the overall language being used in our Parks and Trails planning documents. Dwight gave a brief over view of general accessibility and questioned the city on the use of universal design.

Mike Casey has concerns specifically related to the Cross City Trail. Mike, along with Dwight feels that there is a lower route option that the city should utilize instead of the upper trail that was used. The Parks and Rec Department is being questioned on why they are not utilizing the lower route as it makes more sense and is already accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Alison Clarke has concerns about accessibility on a portion of the Lake Walk in East Duluth near 24th Ave East.

Jim Filby-Williams responded that he strongly agrees with the importance of Universal Design and the city staff relies on public comments and advocates as they are essential at making the city better. This year the Parks and Rec Department will be restoring 6 miles in accessible trail. In 2008 there were fewer than 5 miles of accessible trail throughout the entire city. Jim would like to develop an ADA Transition Plan for the Parks and Rec Department including universal design language as a standard for all parks and trail projects in the future.

It was also addressed by Amanda, Roberta and Jim Filby-Williams that the reason the lower trail route option is not being used at this time is because of restrictions in funding and how funding is used. Duluth had to build the trail where it is. The city is committing to looking at how to utilize the lower trail in the future but as of current the trail will be built to plan. In addition the question of accessibility lies in 1.3 miles of the trail. There is an additional accessible route option on the Munger Trail.

Unfortunately the Commission members did not get adequate time to process this information or ask questions. The commission will continue this conversation at the

July 5th meeting. This will give each party a chance to present the information fully and accurately and allow for commission comments and questions.

Action & Advocacy Reports

a. **Parks & Recreation**

See current disability issues.

b. **Wheel Chair Accessible Task Force** –

Josh gave a summary of the Duluth Transportation and Infrastructure action plan. There will be a steering committee that will meet over 2 years and will serve to be the catalyst of change for accessibility in Duluth. City Council member Alyssa Hanson is in support of an ordinance to create overall construction and reconstruction of transportation accessibility for all people in all modes of transportation.

c. **Olmstead Plan Update**

No update at this time.

6. Accessible Parking Requests

There are no accessible parking requests.

7. Other Business/Announcements

The commission on disabilities members held elections for the executive positions.

Ann was nominated to continue on as chair.

Roberta made a motion for Ann to continue as chair, Amber seconded the motion.

Amy was nominated to continue her position as Vice Chair.

Roberta made the motion and Amber seconded the motion.

Amanda was nominated to continue her role as Secretary. Amanda thanked the group for allowing her to serve as secretary but declined the nomination.

Michelle was nominated for Secretary.

Amber made a motion and Amy seconded the motion.

The Executive Committee motioned that a letter will be sent Gerry Salveson and Randy Voigt thanking them for their service on the Commission on Disabilities as their terms have now expired. The Commission is ready for new members.

Amber motioned to adjourn the meeting. Roberta seconded this motion.

It was unanimously decided that the commission would meet on July 5th and devote a large amount of time at the meeting to discuss accessibility concerns on our parks and trails.

The next Commission on Disabilities meeting is scheduled for Wednesday July 5th, 2017 3:00 pm at City Hall, room 303.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Crosby
Secretary