



MEETING MINUTES
MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITY CONCERNS
JANUARY 9, 2023

Minutes of the MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITY CONCERNS meeting held on Monday, January 9, 2023, 6:30 p.m., In-person and Virtual meeting.

Members Present:

Chair, Katherine Schmidt
Vice Chair, Paul Kent
Robin DiMarino
Rachel Gomez (left early)
Kathy Jefferson
Irene Mochel

Members Absent:

Jacob Bunch
Julie Malloy
Jeff Oats

Staff Present:

- Ginny Belousek, Diversity Manager

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:32 P.M.

- 1. CALL TO THE PUBLIC – THERE WERE NO GUESTS PRESENT**
- 2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 12, 2022 MINUTES**

Motion: Approval of December 12, 2022 Minutes

Motion: Commissioner Mochel

Second: Vice-Chair Kent

Motion: Carried with 5 Votes. Ayes: Chair Katherine Schmidt, Vice Chair Paul Kent, and Commissioners, Rachel Gomez, Kathy Jefferson, and Irene Mochel. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioners Jacob Bunch, Julie Malloy and Jeff Oats. Abstain: Commissioner Robin DiMarino

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 15, 2022 MINUTES

Motion: Approval of December 15, 2022 Minutes

Motion: Vice-Chair Kent

Second: Commissioner Mochel

Motion: Carried with 5 Votes. Ayes: Chair Katherine Schmidt, Vice Chair Paul Kent, and Commissioners, Rachel Gomez, Kathy Jefferson, and Irene Mochel. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioners Jacob Bunch, Julie Malloy and Jeff Oats. Abstain: Commissioner Robin DiMarino

3. DISCUSSION: 2050 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

Chair, Katherine Schmidt represents the CDC on the City's 2050 General Plan Committee, and Commissioner Kathy Jefferson represents the commission on the 2050 Technical Committee. Commissioner Jefferson reported that their last Technical meeting focused on water advantages and disadvantages in Tempe. Chair Schmidt then provided the commission an update on the 2050 General Plan meeting she attended on Monday, 1/2/23. The topic was the circulation system (multi-modal transportation), which is important to the CDC because it affects those with special needs. Tempe is seeking to become a 20-minute city, i.e., getting anywhere in Tempe within 20 minutes via car, bus, etc. Chair Schmidt brought up the use of scooters at the meeting, because they can be unsafe for pedestrians on the sidewalks. City staff responded that they are looking at geo-fencing to address this (an electronic fence which makes the scooters slow down). Chair Schmidt then said there are different transportation issues based on the neighborhoods, such as parking may be an issue in downtown Tempe. The circulation plan will take two meetings, and they will meet on this topic again next week. There is a move to make certain neighborhoods without parking, so that people can walk, however there are people with physical disabilities who can't do that, so Chair Schmidt continues to bring that up in the meetings. The Planning Director in charge of the 2050 project provided Chair Schmidt with a document about how the city plans to incorporate seniors and those with ability issues into the project.

The Commission then segued into discussion about ADA building plans, door width, door weight, and accessible bathrooms (purse hook height, placement of TP dispensers). Commissioner Gomez questioned if there is legislation to make sure these suggestions provided to the 2050 planning committee are standardized, or are they recommendations? Chair Schmidt responded that the Maricopa Association of Government requires that cities make these plans every ten years and plan for 20 years. Zoning suggestions are separate from the 2050 plan. Zoning changes need to go before the City Council. They would fall under the building code, which is updated every ten years. These suggestions don't happen overnight. Commissioner Gomez had questions regarding zoning laws, and requirements for buildings to be designated ADA compliant. Ginny suggested we invite a city staff member from the Planning and Zoning staff to attend next month's meeting to answer these questions, as well as questions raised last month regarding permitting of group homes.

4. NOMINATIONS AND VOTING: CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Chair Schmidt called for nominations for Chair. Irene Mochel self-nominated. Kathy Jefferson nominated Paul Kent. Both commissioners accepted the nominations.

Vote: Vice-Chair Paul Kent and Rachel Gomez voted for Paul Kent; Chair Katie Schmidt, and Commissioners Kathy Jefferson and Irene Mochel voted for Irene Mochel. Commissioner Robin DiMarino abstained. Absent: Jacob Bunch, Julie Malloy and Jeff Oats.

Irene Mochel was elected as Commission on Disabilities Concerns Chair for the 2023 calendar year.

Chair Katie Schmidt nominated Paul Kent for Vice-Chair. Paul accepted the nomination. With no other nominations, the commission voted.



Vote: Paul Kent was elected Vice-Chair with six votes. Ayes: Katie Schmidt, Paul Kent, Rachel Gomez, Kathy Jefferson, Robin DiMarino, Irene Mochel. Absent: Jacob Bunch, Julie Malloy and Jeff Oats.

5. DISCUSSION: 2023 MAYOR'S ALL-ABILITIES AWARDS EVENT

Irene Mochel updated the new commissioner on the All-Abilities Award. Ginny confirmed the date of the event will be April 4th from 4-6 p.m. at the Tempe Center for the Arts. The awards will be held in the Studio Room and the Reception in the Lakeside Room. Ginny is scheduling a site walk with the city's AV team to determine their needs; commissioners are welcome to join. Ginny shared the revised nomination form, with the revised logo with the new All-Abilities name. She also informed the commission that the online nomination form is live. The nomination deadline is March 6, 2023. Irene Mochel volunteered to contact Bobby's Flowers for corsage donations, and she will also work on selecting the awards from Tempe Trophy/Trophy Den.

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023

Location: Tempe Public Library, 2nd Floor Board Room and Virtual

Topics:

1. Mayor's Disability Awards Event
2. Tempe Tomorrow General Plan Technical Advisory Group
3. Presentation by Tempe Community Development Director

Motion: Adjourn the meeting

Motion: Comm. Kathy Jefferson

Second: Comm. Robin DiMarino

Motion: Carried with 5 Votes. Ayes: Chair Katherine Schmidt, Vice Chair Paul Kent, and Commissioners Robin DiMarino, Kathy Jefferson, and Irene Mochel. Nays: None. Absent: Commissioners Jacob Bunch, Rachel Gomez, Julie Malloy and Jeff Oats

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:47 PM