

Minutes

Commission on Disability Concerns Meeting

September 11, 2023

Minutes of the COMMISSION ON DISABILITY CONCERNS held on Monday, September 11, 2023, 6:30 p.m., held both In-Person & Virtually: Tempe Public Library 2nd Floor Conference Room, 3500 South Rural Road, Tempe, AZ 85282 & Microsoft Teams at the following link: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) or by telephone: (480) 498-8745, United States, Phoenix (Toll), Conference ID: 762 995 762#

(MEMBERS) Present:

Jeffrey Oats
Paul Kent
Jacob Bunch
Kathy Jefferson
Irene Mochel (Chair)
Rachel Gomez

(MEMBERS) Absent:

City Staff Present:

Dr. Velicia McMillan Humes, Chief Diversity Officer
Elena Hale, Cultural Programs & Public Education Coordinator
Eric Iwersen, Sustainability & Resilience Director
Irma Hollamby-Cain, Deputy Human Services Director
Jessica Wright, Homeless Solutions Supervisor

Guests

None

Call to Order

Chair Mochel called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 2 – Consideration of Minutes: CDC – June 5, 2023

No meeting took place on August 7, 2023, because of summer recess. Motion to approve June 5, 2023 Minutes: Commissioner Kent, Second by Commissioner Oats. Motion passed on a 6-0 vote. Ayes: Chair Mochel and Commissioners Bunch, Jefferson, and Gomez. Nays: None. Absent: None

Agenda Item 3 – City of Tempe Housing Resources - Irma Hollamby, Deputy Services Director and Jessica Wright, Homeless Solutions Supervisor

Chair Mochel introduced and welcomed City of Tempe staff, Irma Hollamby-Cain and Jessica Wright, to the meeting.

Irma Hollamby-Cain presented information about the Hometown for All initiative. Staff is currently working to establish 400 additional units to further the work of Hometown for All. Irma explained the importance of the various city partnerships in place to ensure the safety and success of the community. The Commission asked how the housing values are determined and if this is a barrier for the program – Irma explained there is currently a payment standard determined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Jessica presented on the diverse approaches to our houseless community, including staff run programs and City of Tempe run and owned shelters. Jessica informed the Commission on the success rates of this program, and their continued collaboration with various other local governments and non-profits.

Chair Mochel thanked the City Staff for their presentation.

Agenda Item 4 – Refresh Tempe: Transportation, ADA and Sustainability & Resiliency

Chair Mochel introduced Eric Iwersen, City of Tempe Staff, to the meeting.

Eric spoke about the suggested improvements to Mill Avenue, both below the street as well as the aesthetics and functionality of the streets and sidewalk. Eric presented 3 concepts that will be presented to Council on September 28th, 2023; all concepts included paving materials, tree species recommendations, and aesthetic elements.

Chair Mochel thanked City Staff for their presentation.

Agenda Item 5 – Proposed Future Agenda Items

None

Agenda Item 6 – Discussion of Upcoming Meeting Date – October 2, 2023

None

Motion made by Commissioner Kent to adjourn the meeting
Second by Commissioner Jefferson
Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Prepared by: Elena Hale

Reviewed by: Velicia McMillan Humes