# 

# PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

**Commission on Disability Concerns**

## **Thursday, May 3, 2012**

**Tempe Library 2nd Fl. Board Room**

**3500 So. Rural Rd., Tempe, AZ 85282**

###### 

###### MINUTES

**The Meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by Chairman Mitchell.**

**(MEMBERS) Present:** Chair: Ed Mitchell, Adam Dregely, Irene Mochel, Sarah Kader, Chelsea Chamberlain, Martha Ashburn, Rachel Phillips, Tom Ringhofer, Carolyn Hutchens, Irene Mochel, and Diane Moran (by phone)

**(MEMBERS) Excused Absence (Notification):**

**Staff Present:**  Karl Stephens, ADA Coordinator

**Public Appearances: NONE**

**1. Consideration of Meeting Minutes**: 04/04/12 Draft Commission Minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Ashburn to approve the Meeting Minutes for April, 5 2012, seconded by Commissioner Ringhofer and approved unanimously.

**2. Update from Karl Stephens on the status of the Americans with Disabilities Act language in Section 10 of the Special Events Application:**

There is nothing to share at this time. The language should be updated within the next two months. A more comprehensive section on the ADA is preferred so it is taken more seriously.

**3. Presentations of interest for Commissioners:**

1. **Presentation by Chelsea Chamberlain, Adam Dregely, and Sarah Kader on appropriate language and terminology when describing people with disabilities.**

Commissioners Chamberlain, Dregely, and Kader distributed a handout on the importance of language when speaking about individuals with disabilities. The handout contained information on the notion of “People First” language and examples of words that might be considered offensive in certain contexts. The purpose of the handout was to induce discussion regarding our role as commissioners and leaders in the Tempe community and that words, and in particular, our words, matter. The three commissioners are going to produce a more condensed hand-out to bring to the next meeting for consideration to place in the water bill or possibly on Channel 11.

**4. Commissioners’ Reports on Projects and Interest:**

**a) Downtown Parking Update: Chairman Mitchell**

The City appears to be refusing to post information regarding accessible parking

areas in downtown Tempe. Rosa is working on this issue.

**b) Section 8 Housing for Tempe Citizens with Disabilities:** **Chairman Mitchell**

Gorman Company has proposed a new 50 unit accessible housing facility at Gracey’s Cottage. The neighborhood is not pleased with the proposal, potentially because they are concerned that it will be filled with individuals who have low income. Gorman Company is seeking the Commission’s support given the proposed universal accessibility of the units. The first reading of the proposal will be on May 10th at 7pm in Council chambers. The 2nd reading and vote will be on May 31st.

Commissioner Ashburn moves to support construction of the complex at the next council meeting. Commissioner Ringhofer seconded. Commissioner Kader and Commissioner Chamberlain abstained from voting. There were no nays.

**c) Social Media and Commission on Disabilities Concern Website:** Jolene de Tiege

and Chelsea Chamberlain, and Adam Dregely

Commissioner Chamberlain is going to submit the updates for June and July

soon.

**d)** **Update on the Mayor’s Commission on Disability Concerns Awards**

**Ceremony:** Irene Mochel

The ceremony was a success, 172 people were in attendance. Food was

catered by Caribbean Spice. Next year will be the 25th awards ceremony,

planning has already commenced.

**e) College Avenue Construction**: Karl Stephens

No update other than an issue at Broadmor Elementary that is being

addressed.

**f) Universal Design for homes and Apartments within the Tempe City**

**Limits:** Ed Mitchell

See 4(b)

**5. Future Presentations by Tempe Departments**

The Commission hopes to have the August 2nd Commission meeting at the Disability Empowerment Center and take a tour of the new Sports and Fitness Center.

**6. Commission support for greater accessible housing: Discussion to include survey of needs to increase availability in Tempe.**

See 4(b)

**7. Commissioners’ issues and concern for the June agenda:**

A. Commissioner Kader’s concern regarding a July meeting.

B. Commissioner Kader’s voting project.

C. Annual Report.

D. Commissioner Ashburn’s presentation on what the Commission can and cannot do.

**8. Announcements by Commissioners that are of Community Interest:**

None.

**9. Meeting Adjourned:** at 8:00pm. Motion by Commissioner Chamberlain, second by Commissioner Dregely, approved unanimously.

|  |
| --- |
| **According to the Arizona Open Meeting Law, the Commission may only discuss matters listed on the agenda. The City of Tempe endeavors to make all public meetings accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations with a minimum of 5 business days advance notice by calling 480-350-2704 (voice) or 480-350-2750 (TTY)** |

For those of you who may not be able to attend the next Commission meeting in person, please remember that you can "officially attend" by calling in to the conference call function. **To do so, please call**[480-350-8988](blocked::tel:480-350-8988#_blank)**.  You will be prompted to enter your 6 digit conference call access code; please enter 008988.  You will hear two quick beeps and hear the message welcoming you to the conference call.**  At this point you should be able to speak into the phone and get a live response from the Board room audience.  I try to get this conference call set-up by 6:20 p.m. each meeting night. **If for some reason you are unsuccessful in getting connected, please call Ed Mitchell at 602-524-2124.**