



Minutes
Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns
March 6, 2014

Minutes of the MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITY CONCERNS held on March 6, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. at Library Boardroom, 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona.

MEMBERS Present:

Chair Ed Mitchell
Vice Chair Rachel Philips
Secretary Sarah Kader
Irene Mochel
Diane Moran
Kathleen Goode
Paul Bennewitz
Robert Kizere
Martha Ashburn
Ben Campbell

MEMBERS Absent:

Tom Ringhofer

Guests Present:

Jeff Oats, Advocate
Chris Baldon, ASU Student
Gerri Fickett, Tempe Citizen
Theresa (Tess) von Nessi, Tempe Citizen
Eric Iwerson, Guest Presenter, Public Works Principle Planner
Roger Vermillion, Guest Presenter, Building Official

Diversity Staff Present:

Michele Stokes, ADA Compliance Specialist

Meeting convened at 6:35 P.M with a quorum present.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

Commissioner Mitchell called the meeting to order and invited members of the public to address the Commission. Guest Gerri Fickett accepted and indicated she and her friend were there to comment on the Parking newspaper article. Commissioners indicate that the article was not completely accurate.

**Agenda Item 2 - Consideration of Minutes: MCDC – February 6, 2014
Minutes (Motion Required)**

The February 6, 2014 MCDC Minutes were **approved with revisions**, correction of name spellings, was made by **Commissioner Mochel** and seconded by **Commissioner Kizere**.

**Agenda Item 3 – Presentation: Broadway Road Pedestrian / Bike Project
Public Works Principle Planner Eric Iwerson:**

(This item was taken out of order.) Public Works Principle Planner Eric Iwerson brought large scale 60% construction plans and pictures to share with the Commission. Eric has been working with ADA Compliance Specialist Michele Stokes to ensure ADA compliance. The plans reflect bi-directional curb cuts (two per curb) and elimination of pavers in crosswalks. Everything is being planned to be ADA compliant and accessible.

The City has attempted to contact all businesses and individuals on Broadway road to obtain their input. Some owners are not in state. The schedule is to finish the plans by May 2014, obtain federal approval by summer 2014, award the project in September 2014, bid for contract in the fall 2014, with council authorization of the project planned for January 2015.

Agenda Item 4 – Presentation: Banning Door Knobs and building code questions Commissioner Tom Ringhofer, Building Official Roger Vermillion

Commissioner Ringhofer was not able to be present. Building Official Roger Vermillion informed the Commission that builders are most concerned about any additional cost of changing the type of doorknobs. With regards to housing, type A units are more accessible and Type B units are more adaptable. A question was asked regarding how does one go about recommending a code change. Response was that there is a process but the change must be approved by City Council and if there is opposition by the building associations or stakeholders it will not be approved. Mr. Vermillion indicated that if changes were desired, it would be best to partner with Multifamily Housing Associations (apartments) and Home Builder Associations (single family homes) or home builders as they are organized and very vocal stakeholders and would be in the position to facilitate additional support for code changes.

Agenda Item 5 – Postponed Accessible Parking Placard Workgroup / Possible Action – Commissioner Kathleen Goode

Postponed.

Agenda Item 6 – Discussion on Parking Article / Possible Action Commissioner Martha Ashburn

The Commission does not have authority to represent City of Tempe (as indicated in the newspaper article). There could be a misperception that we are overstepping our authority and we do not want that. The article was unfortunately misguided. After much discussion it was decided that the commission would let the issue rest.

Agenda Item 7 – Disability Awards Event update/ Possible Action – MCDC Chair Ed Mitchell

Chair Ed Mitchell indicated that the guest speaker planned for the event is an athlete. More information will be provided next month.

Agenda Item 8 – Disability Fair Discussion / Possible Action – MCDC Chair Ed Mitchell

Discussion was held on possibly having a Disability Fair on October 15, 2014. Commissioner Mochel likes the idea; Commissioner Ashburn is concerned about raising funds. Research will be done and more information will be provided at the next meeting. **Commissioner Kizere** requested that the information to decide whether to have a fair be provided so as to make a decision next month.

Agenda Item 9 – Discussion on future minutes / Possible Action – Commissioner Martha Ashburn

A vote was taken as to whether the MCDC staff person Michele Stokes should take the minutes? Discussion included information that other commission staff members in the City of Tempe take minutes. **Motioned passed.**

Agenda Item 10 – Business Compliance Handouts for MCDC distribution ADA Compliance Specialist Michele Stokes

Commissioner Ashburn moved to request a vote to approve the document printed at the next meeting as there were changes to the document.
Commissioner Moran seconds.

**Agenda Item 11 – Feedback on Tempe Boards and Commission Changes
ADA Compliance Specialist Michele Stokes**

Update postponed until next month.

**Agenda Item 12 – February ADA Compliance Activity Report – ADA
Compliance Specialist Michele Stokes**

Discussion postponed. Report is available in the folder for more information.

**Agenda Item 13 – Status on Anti-Discrimination Ordinance – ADA
Compliance Specialist Michele Stokes**

Update postponed until next month.

**Agenda Item 14 – MCDC listing in AZ Relay Friendly Partners Program/
Possible Action – ADA Compliance Specialist Michele Stokes**

Decision postponed until next month.

Commissioner's Announcements

Next MCDC Meeting – April 3, 2014 6:30 p.m.
Tempe Public Library, 2nd Floor Boardroom,
3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona

Commissioner Phillips: The 3rd Annual African American Disability Symposium on Disabilities was Feb 28th at the Desert Willow Conference Center.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by **Commissioner Mochel**.
Seconded by **Commissioner Moran**.
Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

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Prepared by: Sarah Kader

Reviewed by: Michele Stokes



Michele Stokes, ADA Compliance Specialist