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**Minutes**  
**Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns**  
**February 5, 2018**

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Minutes of the MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITY CONCERNS meeting held on Monday, February 5, 2018, 6:30 p.m., at Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Rd., Room B, Tempe, Arizona, 85282.

**MEMBERS Present:**

Chair Wendy Dietrich  
Vice-Chair Katherine Schmidt  
Paul Bennewitz  
Rene Williams Larson  
Maranda M. Childress  
Jeffrey Sherman  
Ben Campbell

**MEMBERS Absent:**

Jeff Oats  
Paul Kent

**Guests:**

Commander Jeff Glover, Tempe Police  
Brigitta Kuiper, Tempe City Clerk's Office  
John Federico, VMAAG  
Colleen Tighe, Tempe ARC  
Irene Mochel, Former Commissioner  
Cathy Hollow, Tempe Public Works  
Sarah Hollow, Student

**Office of Strategic Management and Diversity Staff Present:**

Michele Stokes, ADA Compliance Specialist

**Chair Wendy Dietrich** called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., with quorum.

### **Item 1. Call to the Public**

**Guest John Federico, VMAAG**, commented that there are concerns being reported in in Public Transit Bus routes #48 and #62. The GPS system that announces the stops is not keeping up with the route stops. They are implementing a new audio system, so it is recommended that riders check in with the driver as to locations and stops.

### **Item 2. Review and Approval of Minutes – January 8, 2017 Minutes**

The January 8, 2018 CDC Minutes were **APPROVED**.

Motion: **Comm. Rene Williams Larson**

Second: **Comm. Ben Campbell**

**Motion carried unanimously**

### **Item 3. Discussion: Voting Accommodations – City Clerk Brigitta Kuiper**

**City Clerk Brigitta Kuiper** discussed Tempe's response to a recent news story on how the mail ballot may negatively impact people with disability and homeless communities.

The City Clerk's Office is responsible for maintaining the official records of the City government, overseeing the preservation and accessibility of public records, providing notice of all City Council proceedings and recording actions taken by the City Council, conducting fair and open municipal elections, and administering the City's Boards and Commissions and Lobbyist Registration programs. The City Clerk also serves as the filing officer for the City.

Currently there are six candidates and three propositions on the ballot. The City of Tempe's March 13, 2018, General/Special election will be a Ballot by Mail election. Ballots were mailed to all registered voters on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Also, there

are two Ballot Center Locations, one at City Hall and the other at the Public Library. In a Ballot by Mail election, every registered voter will automatically receive a ballot in the mail and voters can return their ballots by mail, or drop them off at one of the Ballot Center locations. Ballot materials are provided in various formats including large print and Braille. Tempe has found that in the last election, 94 percent of the voters vote from home using the early ballots and 1,229 voters went to the polls.

Voters may track the status of their ballots online and sign up for email and text alerts at [www.maricopa.vote](http://www.maricopa.vote). The county tabulates all the votes.

Accessibility provided for voting in Tempe includes accessible voting equipment, accessible parking, curbside voting and administrative supports. Tempe contracts with Maricopa County Elections. If there are any concerns please contact us, as we want everything to be accessible, with no barriers.

#### **Item 4. Discussion: Police Presentation – Commander Jeff Glover**

**Police Commander Jeff Glover** discussed how Tempe Police respond to people with disabilities in the community.

Police are trained on disability issues, and in detaining individuals with disabilities in annual trainings. The Police Department addresses disability issues when recruiting and in media relations. This training is provided to everyone: staff and officers. Advanced Officer Training is provided that specifically addresses de-escalating situations and presenting resolutions.

The Police Department encounters situations daily regarding individuals with autism, and other disabilities, as well as when working with the homeless. The goal is to keep everyone safe. Police Department also receives training along with the Fire Department in shared Autism resources.

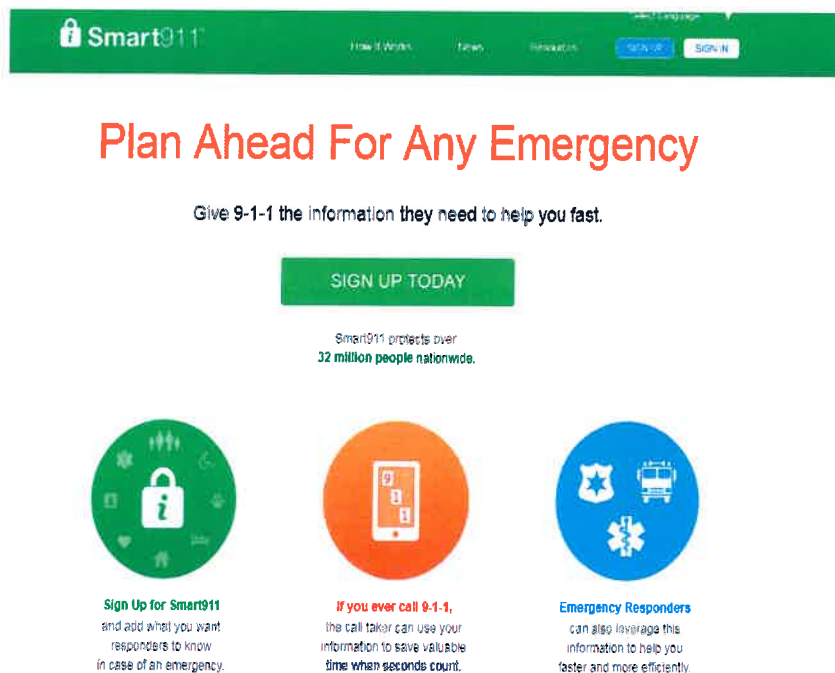
**Smart 9-1-1.** One tool that is used is the Smart 9-1-1 registry which provides more detailed information that is provided voluntarily by the resident or their family member; as it helps when the first responders or officers know something about a situation before walking into it. Over 400 individuals in Tempe, each week, are registering and it also helps to know if the Police Department has worked with the individual

before. The way it works is that dispatchers access the information and gives a short message to officers so it helps them be aware that an individual has a disability or if there are specific triggers that will not help officers de-escalate a situation.

Smart 9-1-1.com is essentially a questionnaire that allows residents to share information on behavioral issues, disability accommodations, and other information such as pets, places that are important, contact individuals. It is confidential. It helps the Police Department to promote Smart 9-1-1, especially with foster children; residents with behavioral disabilities and group home residents. Smart 9-1-1 helps when the Police Department knows who the caregivers are in a family, as well, so when things happen the officers can respond appropriately.

Commissioner Paul Bennewitz requested information on how many Tempe residents are registered with the Smart 9-1-1 program.

**TEAM Reunite.** This program helped the Police Department in the design of the Dementia Friendly City program and with other disability issues. If an individual is missing, lost or if someone wants the Police Department to conduct a welfare check, it helps keep people safe.



The image shows a screenshot of the Smart911 website. At the top is a green navigation bar with the Smart911 logo and links for 'How It Works', 'FAQs', 'Registration', 'SIGN UP', and 'SIGN IN'. Below the navigation bar is a large orange heading: 'Plan Ahead For Any Emergency'. Underneath this heading is the text 'Give 9-1-1 the information they need to help you fast.' followed by a green button that says 'SIGN UP TODAY'. Below the button is a statistic: 'Smart911 protects over 32 million people nationwide.' At the bottom of the infographic are three circular icons with text: 1. A green circle with a padlock icon and text: 'Sign Up for Smart911 and add what you want responders to know in case of an emergency.' 2. An orange circle with a smartphone icon and text: 'If you ever call 9-1-1, the call taker can use your information to save valuable time when seconds count.' 3. A blue circle with a police badge, ambulance, and fire truck icon and text: 'Emergency Responders can also leverage this information to help you faster and more efficiently.'

The Tempe Police Department's TEAM (Tempe **E**ndangered **A**nd **M**issing) Reunite Program is a community resource provided for members of the vulnerable population community who work, live, study, or receive treatment within the City of Tempe. This includes, but is not be limited to children or adults who have Autism, Down Syndrome, Dementia / Alzheimer's and Traumatic Brain Injury. This program provides parents and caretakers with a mechanism to share crucial information with police officers who are responding to calls for service involving these individuals.

Information on the vulnerable person, their parent(s) or responsible caretaker, and other safe contact persons is voluntarily collected through an online form. Current photographs of the registered participant are requested to assist with identification and location, if he or she is ever missing. Information is available at <http://www.tempe.gov/city-hall/police/t-e-a-m-reunite>. Further questions can be directed to the T.E.A.M Reunite program administrator at 480-350-8780 or via email at [teamreunite@tempe.gov](mailto:teamreunite@tempe.gov).

**Crisis Intervention Programs.** These programs and supports help the Police Department serve people with disabilities. Training begins in the Academy and is reinforced annually. The Tempe Police Department is fortunate to have several certified national trainers in-house who provide Crisis Intervention Program training; and as a result, about 70 percent of the Tempe Police Department is trained.

**CARE 7** program is one of the Crisis Intervention Programs. CARE 7 provides "Continuum of Care". This means that when the Police Department encounters people at a point of crisis in their lives, they continue their support and assistance through the crisis point, healing, and recovery. When dispatched by Tempe Police and/or Fire, CARE 7 will respond to incidents including domestic violence, auto accidents, sexual and physical assaults, suicides, homicides, and other unexpected deaths. CARE 7 will provide on-scene assistance and comfort and provide follow-up resources such as assistance with filing for victim's financial compensation, orders of protection, funeral arrangements, and counseling referrals. For more information on the CARE 7 program, call (480) 350-8004 or e-mail [CARE7@tempe.gov](mailto:CARE7@tempe.gov).



**Lockbox and Vial of Life.** This program works with Fire Department. When someone calls 9-1-1 with a medical emergency, it facilitates swift service. For more information on the Lockbox and Vial of Life program contact 480-350-8004.

**What can the Commission do to help?** Promoting the Smart 9-1-1 program, the Dementia Friendly Program and other programs at the events and in relationships you support, helps. The Neighborhood Associations and the Nextdoor.com apps also can be used to help promote this information.

### Item 5: Discussion: Planning- 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor's Disability Awards

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor's Disability Awards will be celebrated on April 17, 2018 from 3:00 – 5:30 p.m. at the Tempe Center for the Arts, Studio, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe, AZ 86281.



Discussion included the planning details regarding activities:

- **Theme: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fair Housing**
- **Accommodations:** ASL Interpreters, CART, Large Print program, Braille Program, Gluten-Free and Sugar-Free foods.
- **Sponsorships** - More sponsors are needed to cover the cost of the event. Last year's event cost over \$6,000 and this year's event cost is expected to be more.

Current sponsors:

- **Cole Engineering** (Shared Title Sponsor)
- **Irene, Lynn and Amie Mochel** (Shared Title Sponsor)
- **Believe I Can Academy** (Honorary Sponsor)
- **Tempe Diablos** (Student Scholarships)
- **Bobbies Flowers** (Flowers)

- **Nominations** - Nomination deadline is February 28, 2018.
- **Speakers**
  - Former Mayor Neil G. Giuliano
  - Current Mayor Mark Mitchell
- **Entertainment** – A Higher Octave Healing band will provide live music
- **Award Selection** – Award selection will be held at the March 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting
- **Registration** – All registration to attend will be done through Event Bright
- **Winner Notification** – Winners will be notified by 3/12/18
- **Lobby** – Tables will be available for the following:
  - Cole – Sponsor with ADA Transition Plan Information
  - Believe I Can Academy - Sponsor
  - Ability360 – Statewide Center for Independent Living
  - ADA LifeQuest LLC – ADA Wayfinding Project
  - Care 7 – Lockbox and Vial of Life
  - SEVRAR – Housing
  - TCC Access Tempe Network – Disability Service Providers
  - Tempe Housing Department
- **Food** – Light refreshments – i.e. cookies, beverages, etc.
- **Day of event details**
  - Volunteers are needed for the day of event
    - Ushers and greeters
    - Registration Table
    - Greeters at the entrance to the building and at the Studio
    - Boutonniere provider to winners
    - Stage – Hand awards to Mayor (Irene Mochel)
    - Stage – Facilitate on and off the stage
    - VIP – thanks sponsors and others (Chair)
  - Event will be televised with Captioning

- Will include ASL Interpreters and CART accommodations.

### **Item 6. Discussion: Review of the 2018 CDC Strategic Planning Goals**

Discussion was held on the strategic planning goals. CDC held several meetings last year to identify their 2018 – 19 priorities which also correspond to the five City Council priorities of Safe & Secure Communities; Strong Community Connections; Quality of Life; Sustainable Growth & Development; Financial Stability and Vitality. Most CDC goals fall under Quality of Life.

#### **These include:**

- Promote City Internships and volunteer opportunities (Employment)
  - Recommend policy/code revisions to increase accessibility (Access)
  - Provided Quarterly inclusion training to city staff and others (Training)
  - Promote vendors who provide employment services (Employers)
  - Provide info. to increase access and inclusion (Inclusion and Recognition)
  - Invite agencies and companies to be CDC partners (Networking)
  - Promote information on disability policies and practices (Information Sharing)
- Events and activities on the CDC calendar reflect these priorities.

### **Item 7. Discussion: Access Tempe Network**

A meeting was held with various agencies that receive grants from Tempe to provide services to people with disabilities. This was the first of the quarterly meetings and it was a good start. CDC information and more were shared. Several of the agencies will be involved with the Disability Awards, including Higher Octave Healing who is coordinating the life entertainment.

### **Item 8. Discussion: Comparison of Adaptive Recreation Programs**

An informal review of what Tempe and other cities are doing in their Adaptive Recreation programs was conducted by Chair Wendy Dietrich. Most of the activity in Phoenix and East Valley cities are funded by Special Olympics or the



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Department of Developmental Disabilities. Phoenix has had no adaptive recreation program staff for years.

There is a Committee of the Whole (COW) workgroup of City Council members who meet regarding parks and recreation. Staff will inquire on the process to request a meeting to share concerns and learn about current development. There is also a COW group for employment of people with disabilities, as well.

Chair Wendy Dietrich also attended a Rio Salado park master plan process and discussed with the staff person the need for adaptive recreation opportunities. There are two consultants creating a master plan and discussions were held on the need for shade, accessible playgrounds, access at special events, and more. Discussion was held on the possibility of installing an adaptive par course and partnering with Ability360 to help design / fund it. This would fit nicely under the City Council Performance measure on 4.7 Above and beyond ADA.

Discussion was held on the need to ensure that there is a wide range of recreation and the need to work with other cities. We want to enhance the recreation opportunities that are inclusive.

### **Item 9: Discussion Commission and Staff Announcements**

No announcements.

Motion to adjourn: **Comm. Paul Bennewitz**

Second: **Comm. Rene Williams Larson**

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Next meeting is March 5, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Prepared by: Michele Stokes, ADA Compliance Specialist

Reviewed by:



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**Ginny Belousek, Office of Strategic Management & Diversity Manager**