



Minutes
Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns
October 5, 2020

Minutes of the MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITY CONCERNS meeting held on Monday, October 5, 2020, 6:30 p.m., Virtual meeting.

MEMBERS Present:

Chair Katherine Schmidt
Vice Chair Irene Mochel
Maranda M. Childress
Tracey Maye
Jeff Oats
Viki Peer
Rene Williams

MEMBERS Absent:

Bethany Lien
Paul Kent

Guests:

John Federico, VMAAG and Tempe Transportation Comm. Representative

Strategic Management and Diversity Office Staff Present:

Jonae Harrison, Equity & Inclusion Manager

Chair Katherine Schmidt called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

1. Call to the Public.

John Federico preferred to use another platform because having a hard time seeing people; Jonae will reach out for training

2. Review and Approval of Minutes – August 3, 2020 Minutes

Motion: Approval of the August 3, 2020 CDC Minutes

Motion: Comm. Tracey Maye

Second: Comm. Rene Williams

Motion carried unanimously, 7 approved, 2 absent, 0 Abstained

Votes

Y Katherine Schmidt Ph.D.

Y Irene Mochel

Y Rene Williams

AB Paul Kent

Y Maranda Childress

Y Ben Campbell

AB Bethany Lien

Y Jeffrey C. Oats

_Y__ Tracey Maye

3. New ADA Compliance Specialist Introduction

Person not hired yet; down to 4 finalists for panel and second round of interviews with Rosa and Jonae

4. Discussion: Tempe's Re-opening / Masks and Accommodations

No new news.

5. Discussion: Nov. 10, 2020 - MockInterviewAppalooza Status

November Mock Appalooza cancelled; will not know until later in 2021 whether there will be in-person gatherings.

6. Discussion: Tempe's BEST (Building Employment Support and Training), Year 3 Grant Approval Status

Heard on 9/18 that got funded; Jonae attended Review Committee and Mary attended full committee meeting – both in September; at the meetings, BEST was highlighted for: strong support it has from city, diverse partnerships of organizations and individuals for advancing the programs, robust strategies, quality of quarterly reports, dedicated staff and contractors involved with program implementation; Max and Michele set standard for reporting; awarded full amount \$124,731; City of Tempe is providing over \$182k in in-kind match (staff time – HS, ADA, space, etc); goals for Yr 3: hire additional BEST employees, provide training to city employees for disability awareness and employment accommodations, work with Employment First to share BEST model with other cities to help other communities replicate Tempe model, implement sustainable strategies; currently hired 3 employees (all of which are BEST graduates, which means actively employed with the City but not needing additional supports, signifying success of the program), expanding partnerships and referral sources (ie. ASU and Maricopa Community College district) to reach out to students and alumni through their disability resources centers; goal is to hire minimum of 6 total (3 remaining in Yr 3) but depends on City openings; have 14 individuals actively looking for employment through BEST

COVID slowed down hiring and shut down some services; for those positions that are hiring, making sure that hiring departments are aware of the BEST program; making sure that all applicants' resumes are up-to-date and submitted as soon as posted; for those applicants worried about applying during COVID, clarify City safety protocols (ie. provide PPE and follow CDC guidance)

More information about the BEST program can be found at: BEST website: <https://www.tempe.gov/government/strategic-management-and-diversity/diversity/ada-accessibility/tempe-s-best-program> or Tempe's BEST Coordinator- Max Ryser Phone: (480) 401-5631, E-mail: max_ryser@tempe.gov

7. Discussion: October - Disability Employment Awareness Month

Updated that info and advertising for disability awareness on social media, street banners and ADA website

8: Discussion: ADA Transition Plan, Phase III - Public Involvement Plan Recommendations

Connected with Emergency Management person Michelle Seitz – she is working on Emergency Management plan

ADA Transition plan a bit delayed because of COVID closure of facilities and inability to access for reports but process still moving smoothly ahead with reports coming in

9. Discussion: Agenda Items for Next Meeting & Announcements

Next Agenda:

- Rene – Reach out to Diablo for giving money for next year, even though don't have event; should not have turned down the money even if didn't have formal event
- Emergency Manager to discuss ADA Transition Plan
- Michele on Commission for Disability Law; she sent info for those voting – maps, facility accommodations, transportation with Orbits, group homes
- Irene retired from American Airlines

Motion: Adjourn the meeting

Motion: Comm. Jeff Oats

Second: Comm. Maranda M. Childress

Meeting adjourned at 7:11pm

Minutes prepared by Jonae Harrison, Equity & Inclusion Manager