



## Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities Worksession Notes: January 09, 2012

### Attending:

Jesus Lardizabal  
Ron Lucey  
Chip Howe  
Norman Kieke  
George Luc  
Tanya Winters  
Kathy Kasprisin  
Marcela Patrick  
Bryson Smith  
Michael Zitz-Evanich

Curt Voelkel  
John Weeks  
Stephanie McDaniel  
Mitch Rappaport  
Boone Blocker  
Jim DeWitt  
Stuart Hersh  
Logan Perkes  
Freda Striplin

### 2011 Accomplishments

#### Employment Awards & Recognition October 25, 2011

The Committee hosted Texas Governor's Committee Awards - DoubleTree Austin with Keynote speaker Lex Frieden. The awards program was re-named for Mr. Frieden. AMCPD state winners included Taco Cabana #278.

#### Business of Work Job Readiness Seminar May 2011 86 participants

Partners include: Workforce Solutions, DARS, DBS, Goodwill Industries of Central Texas, Easter Seals Central Texas, and Criss Cole Rehab Center  
Purpose: To provide job readiness training to job seekers with disabilities in preparation for the Community Career Fair.

#### Access Awards July 28, 2011 Presented by Mayor Lee Leffingwell

9 Winners

2 honorable mentions

13 nominations

The purpose of this award is to recognize Austin businesses for their welcoming attitude and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.



## Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities

### [White Cane Day Oct 20, 2011 Republic Square Park; Over 454 attendees](#)

Mayor Lee Leffingwell presented proclamation. This event highlights the independence of persons who are blind or visually impaired.

### [Disability Mentoring Day Oct 19, 2011 at Goodwill Community Center](#)

Council Member Kathy Tovo presented proclamation.

Committee presented five scholarships to DMD participants.

This event offers career exploration and job shadowing opportunities to youth with disabilities in high school and college.

### [Barton Springs Pool ADA Improvements](#)

Committee members provided testimony and education to the Parks Board, Friends of Barton Springs and city staff on accessibility improvements leading to pool area. In addition, members' recommendations impacted design of ramps; suggestions made it to current plan completion at 60%.

### [Imagine Austin](#)

Committee members attended meetings and represented interests of disability community concentrating in the areas of transportation and housing.

### [ADA Roundtables](#)

In 2011, Committee members participated in coordinating ADA Roundtables with the Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities. The ADA Roundtables are an effort to deliver free training programs about the Americans with Disabilities Act to state and local ADA Coordinators, HR personnel and to the public.

### [ADA Access and Sidewalk Task Force](#)

Committee members participated in these community meetings to discuss the built environment and projects targeting accessibility improvements.



## Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities

### [Parking Mobility](#)

The Committee submitted a recommendation to City Council for the support of this initiative identifying violators of accessible parking with new mobile app.

### [Emergency Preparedness](#)

In June 2011, the Committee co-hosted a listening session on the issues of importance for persons with disabilities during emergency situations, with Marcie Roth, Director, Office of Disability Integration and Coordination - Department of Homeland Security/ FEMA. Committee member, Ron Lucey was appointed to the State Task Force on Emergency Management.

### [Transportation](#)

During several presentations by Capital Metro, the Committee provided feedback on their paratransit services resulting in changes to policy including one relating to services to Austin area public schools. Following several requests by the Committee, the 2002 policy handbook was finally updated.

### [Election Study Group](#)

Committee member participated in reviewing plans for new voting centers voicing concerns for disability community. Additionally, the group reviewed proposal for a new accessible voting system.

### [UT Student Open House/Orientation](#)

The purpose of this event was to provide students with disabilities the opportunity to see the campus, sit in on mock classes and generally immerse in college setting. The summer of 2011 Open house was a great success with 60 students participating. Committee member helped organize and publicize event.



## Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities

AMCPD  
P.O. BOX 1088  
Austin, Texas 78767-8834  
(512) 974-3256 or TTY: (512) 974-2445 or FAX: (512) 974-3296