



Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities MEETING MINUTES October 14, 2013

Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (14, October, 2013)

The Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities convened in a regular meeting on 14, October, 2013 at 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Vice Chair Ron Lucey called the Board Meeting to order at 12:05 PM

Board Members in Attendance: Vice Chair Ron Lucey, Chip Howe Kathy Keller, Norman Kieke, Adam Slosberg, Tanya Winters, absent Chair Jesus Lardizabal

Staff in Attendance: Dolores Gonzalez

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Commissioner Tanya Winters to approve the September 16, 2013 minutes; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Chip Howe. All approved.

1. **OLD BUSINESS:** Discuss the format for the November AMCPD meeting:
 - The Committee will start the regular meeting at 11:30 am.
 - The meeting will take place in Council Chambers.
 - Commissioner Chip Howe will be getting the word out to his contacts.
 - Commissioner Adam Slosberg is looking for certified groups for the Affordable Care Act Forum; he also reviewed the forum agenda with the committee.

NEW BUSINESS: For Discussion and possible action

Presentation: Bruce Elfant, Travis County Tax Assessor Collector – Discussion of new Voter ID law enforcement and information that persons with disabilities need to know.

- Bruce Elfant told the committee that his office was responsible for enforcing the new Texas Voter ID Law which includes the following provisions:
 - Six Forms of ID will be acceptable, plus an EIC from the Department of Public Safety.
 - The name on the voter registration form must be substantially the same to the ID presented. If name does not match, a provisional ballot will be issued.
 - People with disabilities can apply for an exemption to the voter ID law; in the application they must include proof of disability. Acceptable proof is either Veteran preference or document showing they are on SSI.
 - Some groups especially seniors, people with disabilities, and people that are out of town can vote by mail.
- For more information on the new Voter ID Law please contact 512-854-9473 or visit www.TravisCountyTax.org
- Bruce stated that it is not too late to complete name changes, but it is too late to register to vote, as the deadline was October 7. For more information visit www.sos.gov/elections
- Elfant stated that there had not been an identified incident of voter fraud in Travis County in over two decades.

- Commissioner Tanya Winters asked if Bruce was working with Disability Rights Texas to assist people with disabilities at polling places. Bruce told the commissioner that his office is working with them. He added that poll judges will be available to explain how the provisional ballots will work.
- Commissioner Ron Lucey pointed out that students going to school in Austin will not be able to have matching addresses due to them having a school address. Mr. Elfant said that this would not be an issue for voting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Access & Youth Committee – Chair Tanya Winters and Commissioner Kathy Keller

- Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) Commissioner Kathy Keller updated the committee on DMD:
 - This year's program will have about 100 mentees participating in job shadowing. The luncheon is scheduled for October 16 starting at 12:30 at the Goodwill Community Center at 1015 Norwood Park Blvd. Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole has agreed to present the DMD proclamation. Commissioner Ron Lucey invited all commissioners to the event.
- Commissioner Kathy Keller will be attending the Southeast Conference on Disability, and bringing technology, and eLearning experience to the conference.
- White Cane Day Committee member, Bryson McCall Smith briefed the committee on the schedule for White Cane Day:
 - WCD will take place on October 15 with a march from the Texas State Capital to City Hall starting at 9:00am.
 - At 10:00am Mayor Lee Leffingwell will present the WCD Proclamation and participants will then proceed to Republic Square Park for a day of food, music and fun.

Awards & Employment Committee – Chair Ron Lucey

- Employment and Awards Committee, Chair Ron Lucey, updated the committee on the AMCPD Awards Program:
 - The Awards Program will be held on Monday October 28 at Crowne Plaza Hotel Austin starting at 5:30 pm.
 - Council Member Laura Morrison will be in attendance to present the proclamation for National Disability Employment Awareness Month.
 - A News release with the winners' names will be sent out and Awards Committee Chair Ron Lucey provided a "shout out" to former Commissioner Denise Sonleitner, who was the winner of the committee's most prestigious Martha Arbuckle Meritorious Service Award. She was selected for this award for her work as an advocate for children with disabilities and leadership provided for ten years to the Disability Mentoring Day Program.

2. ACTION ITEMS: for October 14, 2013 AMCPD Meeting:

- The Committee held the election for AMCPD Officers at this meeting with the results listed below:
 - Chair - Jesus Lardizabal
 - Vice Chair- Tanya Winters

4. PUBLIC HEARING: No public hearings were held during the October 14, 2013 meeting.

6. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** No Citizen communications for the October 14, 2013 meeting.

7. **STAFF BRIEFING:** Dolores Gonzalez

- **Budget:** report: There were no expenses the month of September, leaving a fiscal year balance of \$6,105.00. There will be no new allocation or decreases in this year's budget for the committee.
- Dolores notified the committee in preparation for the additional Council Members under the 10-1, City Hall will be renovated including Council Chambers and the Executive Session Room during the period of time of June 27 through September 30, 2014. The Board and Commission Room will receive technology upgrades, but no physical renovations. However, construction in the Council Chambers and on first and second floor will result in an increase in the noise level. Because the Committee's meetings are at noon, there should be minimal disruption for the committee meetings. Dolores will keep the committee posted on this renovation progress.
- Dolores told the Committee that no action could be taken on the resolution for Capital Metro changes, because it was not listed as an agenda item for the September meeting.
- Dolores told the Committee that she currently has Linda Espy from the Work Base Learning Program scheduled for the December meeting as the presenter. However the Committee has the annual work session to consider. Dolores asked if the Committee wanted to move Linda's presentation to January meeting. The Committee preferred to have the annual worksession as a separate meeting in December. Dolores will explore dates and locations in City Hall.
- There is a new format for the AMCPD Agendas due to standardization of all Human Resources Department supported commissions; changes were implemented with the October Agenda.

CALENDAR

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- Oct 15 White Cane Day Event
- Oct 16 Disability Mentoring Day at Goodwill Community Center
- Oct 19 Easter Seals Central Texas Dia de Los Muertos at Fiesta Gardens
- Oct 20 Body Shift Dance "Bridging the Gap" at the Pflugerville Bridge
- Oct 28 Disability and Employment Awards at the Crowne Plaza
- Nov 1 & 2 CTD Film Festival Alamo Drafthouse at Anderson Lane
- Nov 12 Affordable Care Act Forum - City Council Chambers

8. **Future Agenda Items:** Future agenda items include: Emergency Preparedness, a public forum on the Affordable Care Act – scheduled for Nov 12 meeting; Update on the Workbase Learning Program – scheduled for Dec 09 Meeting; plus the committee would like an update from NHCD on ABR program funding.

9. **ADJOURN** – A motion was made to adjourn the October 14, 2013, meeting by Commissioner Norman Kieke; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Chip Howe. All approved.