



## Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities MEETING MINUTES February 10, 2014

### Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (10, February, 2014)

The Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities convened in a regular meeting on 10, February, 2014 at 301 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Austin, Texas.

Vice Chair Tanya Winters called the Board Meeting to order at 12:05 PM

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

**Staff in Attendance:** Dolores Gonzalez

1. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Commissioner Chip Howe to approve the January 13, 2014 minutes the motion was seconded by Commissioner Kathy Keller. Commissioner Adam Slosberg stated that some questions had been left out; those items have now been added. He stated that with changes he can accept the minutes. Commissioner Norman Kieke stated that the calendar event for Easter Seals was at the Austin Country Club and not the Austin Club as stated. With all the recommended changes, the Committee approved the minutes.
2. **OLD BUSINESS:** For discussion and possible action –
  - The Committee discussed sending out an html formatted email with the AMCPD accomplishments. Commissioner Ron Lucey will report back to the committee on this item. Commissioner Kathy Keller has offered to help distribute the email. Commissioner Adam Slosberg mentioned that he had spoken to the CAN and they will also distribute the accomplishments.
  - The Committee discussed the use of B&C emails for committee business. Staff Liaison Dolores Gonzalez will send Help Desk phone number to commissioners who don't currently have a B&C email account.
3. **NEW BUSINESS:** For Discussion and possible action  
**Presentation:** Kipa Smith- Recreation Program Supervisor & Stephanie LeRoy- Recreation Program Coordinator - Inclusion Unit: Introduction to PARD's Inclusion Unit and description of services provided to citizens with disabilities.
  - Summary
    - The Inclusion Unit was created in 2010 and fully staffed in 2011
    - In the summer of 2012, the unit served 25 youth. In 2013 that number has increased to 56 youth, mainly through word of mouth.
    - The Unit serves 10-15 youth in afterschool programs with only two temporary staff members.
    - Those youth served by the program are sometimes identified by parents, but oftentimes recreation center staff identifies the need and calls on the Unit to assist.
  - Example of Services
    - The Unit worked with the Aquatics Division assisting people with disabilities participate in a swim class.
    - Throughout the year the Unit has provided support in various youth sports including t-ball, basketball, and soccer. This support includes, providing education to coaches,

- parents and peers, as well as, coordinating and supervising Sign Language Interpreting Services for participants.
- At the Dougherty Arts Center, summer camp staff was trained by the Unit in adaptive techniques for games, activities, and crafts.
- Stephanie LeRoy, an Inclusion Unit staff member, works directly with parents in conducting assessment for youth with disabilities participating in PARD programming.
- **Expanding Services**
  - The Inclusion Unit would like to expand services to adults in the 50+ seniors programs offered by PARD.
  - Reaching out to Veterans organization like Wounded Warrior is also an outreach priority.
  - Continuing to increase awareness of the Inclusion Unit and its services to PARD staff and the community, is a main goal as well. The ADA Office currently partners with PARD on a mandatory ADA Inclusion Awareness Training.
  - However, the highest priority is finding funding to hire more staff members to service an ever growing need for services among current PARD Programs.
- **Contact**
  - For more information on services or the unit contact information is provided below:  
Kipa Smith, M.S., Recreation Program Supervisor 512-974-3917  
[Kipa.Smith@austintexas.gov](mailto:Kipa.Smith@austintexas.gov)
  - Stephanie LeRoy, CTRS, Recreation Program Coordinator, 512-974-3902,  
[Stephanie.LeRoy@austintexas.gov](mailto:Stephanie.LeRoy@austintexas.gov)
  - General Inclusion contact [512-974-3914 Inclusion@austintexas.gov](mailto:512-974-3914%20Inclusion@austintexas.gov)

#### **4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

##### **Access & Youth Committee – Chair Tanya Winters**

- Committee Chair Tanya Winters announced the passing of the Visitability Ordinance requirements into City Code. Commissioner Ron Lucey will follow up with NHCD on the actual cost for accessible/visitable homes. He has yet to receive a response, but previous estimates showed the cost at less than \$500.00. Commissioner Chip Howe thanked Council Members Kathie Tovo and Laura Morrison on advocating on behalf of the ordinance.
- Commissioner Kathy Keller mentioned that the contest for artwork for the 2014 DMD Poster was underway. The deadline to submit artwork is March 28, please submit all artwork to [lee.nguyen@austintexas.gov](mailto:lee.nguyen@austintexas.gov)

##### **Awards & Employment Committee – Chair Ron Lucey**

- Committee, Chair Ron Lucey, announced the first Business of Work Job Readiness Seminar Planning meeting would be held on February 18 at 11:30am at DARS Brown Heatly Building 4900 N Lamar. This seminar targets persons with disabilities to improve their job seeking skills including when to disclose a disability and how to ask for accommodations.

**5. ACTION ITEMS:** No action items were recorded during the February 10, 2014 meeting.

**6. PUBLIC HEARING:** No public hearings were held during the February 10, 2014 meeting.

**7. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** Citizen communication were recorded for the February 10, 2014 meeting below:

- Corey from Goodwill Central Texas
  - Goodwill will be sending representatives to the Business of Work planning meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, Goodwill plans to partner with the City at this year's Career Expo to be held May 20, 2014 at the Palmer Events Center.

**8. STAFF BRIEFING:** Dolores Gonzalez

- Budget: report: There was one expense for the month of December, leaving a fiscal year balance of \$6,005.00. The expense was renewing the Committee's membership with the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities at the annual rate of \$100.00.
- The ADA Implementation Report, is currently being finalized by the ADA Office, the report is the culmination of all ADA improvements and access activities by City departments. The final report will be distributed at the committee's next meeting.
- PARD Inclusion Training is scheduled to take place through April on the following dates Feb 13, Feb 27, March 13, March 27, as well as April 10 and 30.
- The Pedestrian Advisory Council wants to present their Complete Streets recommendations plan to City Council at the May Committee Meeting. The Neighborhood Connectivity Division of Public Works will be presenting the updated ADA Transition Plan at the June meeting.

**CALENDAR**

- Feb 18 Business of Work Planning Meeting DARS Brown Heatly Building 11:30am
- Feb 22 Easter Seals Annual Gala at the Austin Country Club
- Feb 23 Transforming Health Fair at Trinity Methodist Church 2:30-4:30pm
- Feb 20 Candidate Forum for Travis County Judge with discussion topic on Mental Health – Frank's at 7:00 PM.

- 9. Future Agenda Items:** Future agenda item discussed during February 10, 201 - invite Capital Metro to a future meeting to discuss changes that will have a significant impact on riders with disabilities. The Committee should invite both Martin Kareithi, and Boone Blocker. Commissioner Adam Slosberg made a recommendation to add name tents for commissioners especially since the meetings are televised.

- 10. ADJOURN** – A motion was made to adjourn the February 10, 2014, meeting by Commissioner Adam Slosberg; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Norman Kieke. All approved.