



Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities MEETING MINUTES April 15, 2013

Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (15, April, 2013)

The Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities convened in a regular meeting on 15, April, 2013 at 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Lardizabal called the Board Meeting to order at 12:05 PM

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

Staff in Attendance: Dolores Gonzalez

1. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Commissioner Chip Howe to approve the March 11, 2013 minutes; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Norman Kieke. All approved.

2. OLD BUSINESS:

For discussion and possible action -Visitability requirements inclusion into International Residential Code; finalize recommendation to City Council. Read the current recommendation.

- Chair Jesus Lardizabal and Commissioner Norman Kieke updated the committee on The Barton Springs Pool Southside entrance ADA improvements.
 - The Austin City Council did approve the most current recommendations to the Barton Springs Southside ADA improvements project.
 - Council Member Laura Morrison and her staff worked hard to come up with a compromise for access to the overlook that everyone approved.
 - Chair Lardizabal and Commissioner Kieke both commended the Council Member for her great support in passing the improvement plan.

3. NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation: Jonathan Tomko AICP Senior Research Analyst Neighborhood Housing and Community Development, Overview of the FY 11-12 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER). Summary of FY 13-14 Action Plan process and provide opportunity for community feedback.

- Overview of Presentation
 - What is affordable housing and household affordability?
 - Affordable housing is classified as housing where occupants are paying no more than 30% of his or her income for gross housing costs, including utilities.
 - Household affordability is about the costs of housing, utilities, taxes, and transportation. The definition comes from Imagine Austin.
 - NHCD Mission and funding allocations
 - It is the mission of NHCD to provide housing, community development, and small business development services to benefit eligible residents, so they can have access to livable neighborhoods and increase their opportunities for self-sufficiency.
 - NHCD accomplishes its mission by using funding from multiple sources including: the Housing Trust Fund and Federal Block grants.
 - For FY 12-13 new funds for the department amounted to \$13,399,606.00 which came from multiple sources.

- This new funding was invested into 7 areas including Renter Assistance and Home Owner Assistance. These 2 areas include Architectural Barrier Removal for both renters and homeowners with disabilities.
- In FY 12-13 NHCD helped 891 renters and 708 owners under the two programs.
- 24% of new funding will be going towards the two programs in the coming fiscal year.
- FY 11-12 Highlights
 - Affordable Housing Development had a record year in the area of housing development assistance. NHCD also exceeded goals in rental and ownership housing assistance by 87%.
 - In the area of Payment Supportive Housing NHCD has 279 of 350 planned units, with 170 units occupied. The additional 109 units have secured partial funding.
- FY 09- FY 14 Consolidated Plan
 - The plan is designed to promote these core values: long term affordability, geographic dispersion, and deeper levels of affordability.
 - Expanding alternative revenues and providing leadership are also key points in the plan that includes: A housing market study and Imagine Austin a comprehensive City development plan for the future of urban development and growth.
- Action Plan for Community Input
 - The Action Plan Committee will be holding two public hearings for community input one on Thursday June 13 at 6:30pm at the Community Development Commission Meeting, Boards and Commission Room at City Hall 301 W 2nd St.
 - The second public hearing is a planned Council Meeting on Thursday June 20 at 4:00pm inside Council Chamber at City Hall.
 - NHCD also invites feedback through the speakupatx! It is an Online forum you can visit the site at <https://austintexas.granicuideas.com/ideas>
 - Public Comment can also be submitted to NHCD via email at: NHCD@auatintexas.gov or mailed to: NHCD Attn: Action Plan P.O. Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767
- Question and Discussion
 - Commissioner Kathy Keller asked how community members' needs were being compiled by NHCD and if the community had access this this information? Jonathan responded that plan information was being presented through public hearings, partner organizations, online forums, and through recreation centers and libraries.
 - The committee would like NHCD to increase the number of applications for the ABR program as not all needs are able to be met. David Potter clarified that rental requests were not being met with federal funds as the national trend is more people owning rather than renting housing. Commissioner Tanya Winters would like to see more options for people that fall in the gray area of eligibility under ABR.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Access & Youth Committee – Chair Tanya Winters

- Committee Chair Tanya Winters updated the committee on the Barton Springs Pool Southside entrance ADA improvements.
- Committee Chair Tanya Winters reported to the committee that the parking recommendation from the AMCPD had been submitted to Council.

- Committee Chair Winters also made a pitch to get nominees for the Austin Access Awards.

Awards & Employment Committee – Chair Ron Lucey

- Committee Chair Ron Lucey reported to the committee that the Business of Work Seminar was a great success with 75 participants.
- Chair Lucey also announced that planning for the AMCPD Employment Awards was started up in March.

4. **ACTION ITEMS**: no action item was recorded during the April 15, 2013 meeting
5. **PUBLIC HEARING**: No public hearings were held during the April 15, 2013 meeting.
6. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**: There were no citizen communications for the April 15, 2013 meeting.
7. **STAFF BRIEFINGS**: Dolores Gonzalez
 - **Budget**: report: There were no expenses the month of March, leaving a fiscal year balance of \$6,105.00
 - George Zapalac from Planning Development and Review submitted the Committee's motion regarding accessible parking in the downtown area. He will keep us updated on any future action by City Council. The motion is below:
Commissioner Kathy Keller made a motion to support the proposed amendments for Chapter 25 of the City Code pertaining to the requirements for off-street parking in the Central Business District, Downtown Mixed Use and P-Public zoning districts in the downtown area of Austin with the following changes:
 - Require accessible parking for uses over 6,000 sq. ft., based on either: parking provided, or parking that would have been required under old regulations.
 - Allow on-street accessible parking within 250 ft. to count toward requirement.(Staff to resolve the question of whether businesses can share the same spot to meet this requirement)
 - Anywhere on-street parking exists and technically feasible, there will be an accessible parking space ensuring compliance with ADA.
 Commissioner Norman Kieke seconded the motion. All agreed.
 - Dolores recently attended training for new processes. One is for Boards recommendations to City Council. The process will be formalized and handled much like when the liaison posts meeting notices and agendas. Council Members will immediately be notified of B & C submitted recommendations. There is another process "Community Interest Events." This is when commissioners plan to attend a community event. If the liaison knows about it, they can post this item too. There can be a quorum of members attend; only no Committee business can be discussed.
 - Dolores wanted to remind Commissioners that when communicating about committee business, that commissioners were to use their B & C email, that was established during their training. Dolores recently sent out an email about this and has not received any responses. She suggested maybe, commissioners can make a reminder for themselves to check this email weekly or from time to time.

CALENDAR

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|---------------------|--|
| • April 25-26, 2013 | Brain Injury Conference |
| • May 4, 2013 | May Day Community Dance Mary Lee Foundation 1337 Lamar Sq. Dr. Austin TX 78704 |
| • October 11 & 23 | CTD Film Festival |

- Oct 16

Disability Mentoring Day

8. **Future Agenda Items:** None were discussed at the April 15, 2013 meeting
9. **ADJOURN** – A motion was made to adjourn the April 15, 2013 meeting by Commissioner Norman Kieke; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Kathy Keller. All approved.