



Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities MEETING MINUTES May 11, 2015

Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (11 May, 2015)

The Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities convened in a regular meeting on 11 May, 2015 at the Boards and Commission located inside City Hall at 201 W 2nd St in Austin, Texas.

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

Board Members in Attendance: Chair Jesus Lardizabal, Vice Chair Tanya Winters, Chip Howe, Norman Kieke, Katie Navine. Absent Commissioners: Ron Lucey, Kathy Keller

Staff in Attendance: Dolores Gonzalez, Lee Nguyen

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Norman Kieke made a motion to approve the April 13, 2015 minutes; Commissioner Tanya Winters seconded the motion. All approved.
2. **OLD BUSINESS:** No items were discussed during the April 13, 2015 meeting
3. **NEW BUSINESS:** For discussion and possible action
 - a. Presentation: Presentation – Kevin Paris – Research Analyst, Community Advancement Network Overview and discussion of Community Advancement Network's Community Dashboard page related to people with disabilities. To view the complete discussion including Commissioner's questions and comments please visit:
<http://austintx.swagit.com/play/05112015-582>
 1. Summary
 - In 2013, there were 110,447 people with disabilities residing in non-institutional settings in Travis County. This represents 9.9% of the civilian population. The percentage of people with disabilities in the civilian population for the US is 12.2% and for Texas it is 11.6%. About four in ten of these individuals have more than one type of disability, and nearly one quarter of veterans living in the county have a disability.
 2. Key Issues affecting people with disabilities
 - There is a shortage of affordable housing that is ADA compliant and accessible to public transit.
 - People with disabilities may have a spotty work history and difficulty finding employment.
 - People with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and their caregivers, face challenges navigating transitions from Early Childhood Intervention to Special Education and from public school to adult services.
 - There is an inadequate supply of community services, and cuts in state funding for Early Childhood Intervention present challenges to identifying and treating learning disabilities.
 3. Local Efforts to improve the well-being of people with disabilities
 - The Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities advises the Austin City Council and City manager on the needs of people with disabilities in Austin. The 2014 accomplishments of the Committee are available upon request.
 - Goodwill of Central Texas, through its Community Rehabilitation Program, provides employment services for people with disabilities, including job placement,

supported employment, job coaching, work adjustment training, and vocational adjustment training.

- The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Coalition is a coalition of agencies that serve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The coalition works to educate the public on the needs of people with IDD and promotes a continuum of services for their clients.
- 4. See more at: <http://cancommunitydashboard.org/populations/people-with-disabilities.php>

b. Committee Reports

1. Access & Youth Committee – Chair Tanya Winters

- Committee Chair Tanya Winters set a July 17th deadline for the receiving nominations for the Austin Access Awards. She encouraged the commissioners and the public to nominate businesses.
- The Austin Access Awards nomination form can be found under Mayor's Committee Activities <http://austintexas.gov/adacommitteeactivities>
- Chair Jesus Lardizabal reported that he had received feedback from City staff on the simplified version of Visitability Fact Sheet. Jesus will distribute the document to Lee to provide to the commissioners for final review.

2. Awards & Employment Committee – Dolores Gonzalez for Committee Chair Ron Lucey

- Dolores reported that Committee Chair Ron Lucey had provided testimony at the Health and Human Services Council meeting to support the Autism program; the committee had sent a recommendation to Council.

4. **ACTION ITEMS:** No action items were discussed during the May 11, 2015 meeting.

5. **PUBLIC HEARING:** No public hearings were held during the May 11, 2015 meeting.

6. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** There was one citizen communications at the May 11, 2015 meeting of the AMCPD.

1. Adam Slosberg – Humanitarian with Beyond Today International. Mr. Slosberg spoke about various items related to Mental Health including: National Health and Dignity Day, representation of mental health on the AMCPD, and greater collaboration between mental health and physical disabilities advocates.
2. John Woodley – Disability Advocate Mr. Woodley expressed disappointment in his accommodations provided by the City. He made a comment that he didn't get his accommodations today. He stated that he submitted an email with a list of future meetings where he needed accommodations.

7. **STAFF BRIEFING:** Dolores Gonzalez

- **Budget:** report: There were no committee expenses in April leaving a fiscal year balance of \$6,005.00.
- Staff liaison Dolores Gonzalez reported that on April 29, she submitted the request for the committee to meet with the Mayor, but had not heard back from his office.
- 25th Anniversary items: Dolores reported that Lee will work with City staff on adding a banner on austintexas.gov, Jesus is working on the Visitability Factsheet, and Tanya discussed the Austin Access Awards, as an event to celebrate the anniversary.
- Dolores reported that she had reached out to DARS to discuss the 25th anniversary, but did not have any specifics on this collaboration.

CALENDAR

- July 17 Deadline for Access Awards Nominations
- Aug 6 Austin Access Awards and ADA Anniversary Proclamation Council Chambers
- Oct 14 White Cane Day
- Oct 21 Disability Mentoring Day

8. **Future Agenda Items:** No future agenda items were discussed during the May 11, 2015 meeting.
9. **ADJOURN** – A motion was made to adjourn the May 11, 2015, meeting by Commissioner Chip Howe; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Katie Navine. All approved.