



**MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR PEOPLE WITH
DISABILITIES (MCPD)**
MEETING MINUTES

September 16, 2016

**5:00 pm in City Hall Board and Commission Room 101
301 West Second Street
Austin, TX 78701**

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brian Owens, Chair, Kevin Jackson, Chris Masey, Marshall Mitchell, Robin Orlowski,
Danny Saenz, David Simmons, Deborah Trejo, Diane Kearns-Osterweil

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Tonya Winters, Vice-Chair

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair, Brian Owens at 5:00 p.m.

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Commissioner Orlowski moved approval of **August 12, 2016** MCPD meeting. Commissioner Jackson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- 2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** Citizen spoke regarding **Special Report on Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization CAMPO**. Would like to include people with disabilities in his report. . Please contact John Woodley if anyone has disability information to be included.
- 3. OLD BUSINESS:** For discussion and possible action: Commissioner Mitchell, inquiry regarding hiring of Equity Officer. Chair Owens indicated that the topic would be covered during committee reports.
- 4. NEW BUSINESS:**
 - a. Discussion and possible Action Item: commissioner Orlowski presented discussion regarding changing the process of reporting complaints of AIDS discrimination from Human Resources to the ADA Program Office. Following discussion, it was determined that more information was needed on the current reporting structure. Chair Owens asked Commissioner Orlowski to provide a written summary of the current ordinance along with her recommended changes. A request was made to have a city staff person provide a presentation at a future meeting.

Commissioner Orlowski made a motion to form a working group on this issue. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Trejo. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. **Discussion and possible action item: Commissioner Masey – Consider disability being included on the next Disparity Study or if not, consider conducting an independent Disparity Study exclusive to disability. Currently, disability is removed from the Disparity Study, because it reportedly skews results. Houston has already defined disability as a disadvantaged group regarding contract consideration. Person with Disabilities Business Enterprise designation carries the same status as Women-Owned Business Enterprise or Minority Owned Business Enterprise. A motion was made to move forward with the recommendation to include persons with disabilities in the next Disparity Study or recommend a Stand-alone study be conducted, exclusive to people with disabilities. A second motion was made by Commissioner Trejo to form a working group to discuss the language in the recommendation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Masey and passed unanimously.**
- c. Discussion and Action Item: Chair, Brian Owens – recommended that work groups be established to discuss issues and then brought to the general assembly. Lee Nguyen cautioned commissioners not to include more than 4 members; otherwise the working group would risk having a walking quorum. Mr. Nguyen indicated that working groups could report their findings under the appropriate subcommittee reports. Chair Owens asked that commissioners inform him if any commissioner would like to form a work group.

5. MCPD Committee Reports: For discussion and possible action

- i. Access and Public Policy Committee: Chair Saenz stated that the committee had not met; however, he provided information about the upcoming election. He reminded everyone that the deadline to register to vote was October 4, early voting ran from October 24 to November 4, and the general election was to be held on November 8. He indicated that citizens can call disability rights Texas at (888) 796-8683 for more information.
- ii. Awards and Outreach Committee – vice-Chair Winters was not present; however, she submitted her report to Chair Owens prior to the meeting. Chair Owens read the report. August Joint Inclusion Committee was cancelled. It will convene again in September; planning for Disability Mentoring Day is moving along. Council Member Houston has indicated that she will read the proclamation. The event is scheduled for October 19 at the Asian American Resource Center; White Cane Day is October 12 at Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Commissioners were encouraged to attend; The Disability Employment Awards is scheduled for October 17. Commissioners are encouraged to attend. Award nominations are going very slowly. Commissioners are encouraged to find the nomination form on line. Deadline is

later in the month. Lee Nguyen will send a link to the nomination form. There was a Meet and greet held by city staff to meet the final candidates for the Equity Officer. Disability issues were very high on the priority list among other issues.

- iii. Employment and Education Committee – Chair Masey – Committee did not meet.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a. Budget Update/ADA Report – Lee Nguyen – Provided an update on budget and expenditures. Mr. Nguyen will make changes to the budget as directed by the committee.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: City of Austin proposal to include disability on disparity study or conduct stand-alone study; Cap Metro presentation to answer question regarding, among other issues, how they determine what stops get shelters; Present more information regarding AIDS policy moving to ADA Office. Staff will attempt to get information regarding current flow of information and frequency of calls; Recommendation to add an agenda item called “announcements”.

8. ADJOURNMENT: the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.