

Commission on Disability Concerns Meeting Minutes December 4, 2008

**6:30 p.m.
Board Room
Tempe Public Library,
3500 So. Rural Road, Tempe AZ**

No Quorum Present No Official Business Conducted

(MEMBERS) Present:

Chair Mason Murphy, Co Vice-Chair Robert Kizere, Jacque Olsen, José De la Torre, Cyndi Newburn, Linda Bergevin (telephone)

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Co Vice-Chair Nora Nuñez, Tyler Allen, Matthew Jellison, Aaron Edgell, Frank Emery, Janie Shelton, Darrell Shandrow, Chelsea Chamberlain,

Staff Present:

Karl Stephens, ADA Compliance Specialist

Guests present:

None

Meeting convened at 6:40 p.m., Chair Mason Murphy called the meeting to order.

Public Appearances:

None

1. Consideration of Meeting Minutes: No official action taken.

2. Architectural Compliance Committee - Matthew Jellison

- Commissioner Olsen reported that the committee had reviewed and discussed a Draft 'Mission Statement' presented by Commissioner De la Torre, meant to help participants to better focus their efforts and decide what the focus will be for the future. Input will be reviewed at the next scheduled meeting on December 18. Commissioner Olsen also reported that the Committee members and any other interested Commissioners could join them at 1:00 p.m., Sunday, December 7 at the Tempe Marketplace to discuss and review a number of accessibility concerns at this mall. A review of their findings will be discussed at the next Commission meeting on February 5, 2009.

3. Tempe Rental Housing – Aaron Edgell

- No report.

4. Dial-A-Ride Update – Darrell Shandrow

- No Report

5. Vial of Life Update – Staff

- Staff reported that City Fire Chief Cliff Jones is working with his local Rotary Club to solicit the funds to pay for the Vial-of-Life products to be distributed to the community.

6. Mayor's Awards Committee Update – Staff

- Staff updated that this Committee really needs the participation of a Commissioner to lead the Committee, since Paul Bennewitz has left the Commission. The date of the next meeting was discussed and Commissioner Newburn has expressed an interest in participating with this group. Staff reported that he had received notice from the Library Administration office that the Library Program Room has been reserved for the next event date on Wednesday, April 29, 2009, from 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

7. Report from the Child-Ability Committee – Linda Bergevin

- No official report, although Commissioner Bergevin will contact the 3 different Tempe School District Administrators that she is working with to get an update on their participation with the Child-Ability Committee community survey that they said they would support, since she has not heard from any of them.

8. Parks and Recreation Committee Update – Frank Emery

- No official report, although staff did update the Commissioners about his meeting in November with the Rio Salado Staff member Edith Ross and the new Customer Service person at the Rio Lago Boat Tour Company booth at Tempe Town Lake. Rio Lago is the company that had given Commissioner Bergevin such bad information when she tried to secure an accessible boat ride for her daughter's 16th birthday in January 2008. Upon arrival at the Lake, she was told that her daughter's wheelchair was not compatible with the boat that she had been told she could rent for such an occasion. The family outing was cancelled when they learned that the only boat that would accommodate her wheelchair was much larger and much more expensive than the one available for someone non-disabled. Staff shared information with the company representative regarding the need for good training of the Rio Lago staff regarding giving knowledgeable and consistent good service to all customers, including those with disabilities. Rio Lago was reminded that they are representing the City of Tempe in that kiosk at the Tempe Town Lake. Staff also gave Ms. Ross information regarding the need for an additional handrail for the existing ramp to the boats.

Diversity/ADA Office Update

- Staff Liaison presented information that the ADA position, along with many other City positions, is being considered for elimination or restructuring, based upon the need to save funding equal to some 100 positions.

Topics for Future Meetings:

- Agenda item to discuss the need for 'free internet' in City of Tempe and what that might really mean. Accessibility concerns?

Meeting adjourned 7:45 p.m.

Prepared by: Karl Stephens

