

Commission on Disability Concerns Meeting Minutes February 5, 2009

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

(MEMBERS) Present:

Chair Mason Murphy, Co Vice-Chair Robert Kizere, Jacque Olsen, José De la Torre, Janie Shelton, Aaron Edgell, Frank Emery, Liz Perez, Chelsea Chamberlain

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Co Vice-Chair Nora Nuñez, Tyler Allen, Matthew Jellison, Darrell Shandrow, Linda Bergevin, Cyndi Newburn

Staff Present:

Karl Stephens, ADA Compliance Specialist

Guests present:

Mr. Michael Williams, City of Tempe Deputy Development Services Manager

Meeting called to order at 6:38 p.m., by Chair Mason Murphy.

Public Appearances:

None

- **Consideration of Meeting Minutes:** 11/6/08 Draft Commission minutes; 10/15/08, 11/12/08, and 12/17/08 Draft Awards Committee minutes; moved by Jacque Olsen and seconded by Robert Kizere that all four sets of Draft minutes be approved. 11/20/08 Draft Architectural Compliance Committee minutes were held back awaiting approval at the next Architectural Compliance Committee meeting on February 19, 2009.
- **2. Presentation by Michael Williams:** Mr. Williams shared information about his office's role in building permits and plan reviews, as well the important role of Building Safety from the perspective of the Code Enforcement Specialists working for the City. He shared the depth of the knowledge and experience needed by his employees and the number of certifications that they hold. Education and job experience that help them succeed in a very technical field, but that also helps the City attract the wide array of building projects that really help the City thrive economically. Mr. Williams asked that if the Architectural Compliance Committee needs assistance with resolving any accessibility issues in the community that they contact him. He will be happy to utilize the Building Safety resources whenever possible. He used several examples of situations where the resources of his Dept.

can be very helpful, since they have the history of each building project over the years and how the codes of that time would have affected the accessibility of each structure. They also have records of all changes that have been made in each business over the life of the structures. This gathering was an excellent match that will yield some real benefits in the years ahead as the Committee and Building Safety work collaboratively to better serve the disability community in Tempe.

3. Architectural Compliance Committee - Matthew Jellison

- No report

4. Tempe Rental Housing – Aaron Edgell

- No report.

5. Dial-A-Ride Update – Darrell Shandrow

- No Report

6. Vial of Life Update – Staff

- Staff reported that City Fire Chief Cliff Jones recently contacted him with the information that the South Tempe Rotary Club is willing to contribute \$1,000.00 on an ongoing basis whenever the need arises to order more vials. In exchange they are asking for having their logo located on the vials and any advertising materials, along with the City of Tempe and Tempe St. Luke's Hospital logos.

7. Mayor's Awards Committee Update – Staff

- Staff reported that he received notice 3 weeks ago that the Library renovation will start sooner than expected and that no meetings will be held after March 31. This means the April 29 Mayor's Disability Awards event needs a new home. After a great deal of searching and coordinating, it looks as though we may end up in the Pyle Adult Center multi-purpose room. Final details should happen soon, although we still have several feelers into the community to lock down a venue centrally located.

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

- No official report, although Linda is waiting to hear back from several school administrators with their okay to move forward with the community services survey.

9. Parks and Recreation Committee Update – Frank Emery

- No official report.

Diversity/ADA Office Update

- Staff Liaison presented information that the ADA position, along with many other City positions, is on the list for elimination 6/30/09, based upon the need to save funding equal to some 170 positions. The full proposal and recommendations for a priority placement program for displaced employees wishing to compete for a few vacant positions will probably start soon after the February 19 presentation to the City Council of the City Manager's recommended downsizing plan. The City Council has the option of what will remain or be changed in the final plan. It is still possible that they will see fit to keep the ADA position and have it removed from the list of positions to be eliminated.

Topics for Future Meetings:

- Tom Canasi, Community Services Manager: Accessibility of Historic Museum and the renovated Tempe Library

Meeting adjourned 8:20 p.m.

Prepared by: Karl Stephens

_____ *Karl W. Stephens* _____
Staff Liaison, ADA Compliance Specialist