



CITY OF TUCSON
 COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
 (CODI)
 MEETING MINUTES

The meeting of the Tucson Commission on Disability Issues was called to order by George McFerron, Chair, on Wednesday, October 17, 2007, at 2:30 p.m., at Eastside City Hall, in the Conference Room, located at 7575 E. Speedway Blvd., Tucson, AZ.

1. Roll Call

Commission Members	Representing	Present/Absent
Susan Zimmerman	Mayor	Present
Vacancy	Ward 1	
Larry Lucas	Ward 2	Present
Michael Pesce	Ward 3	Present
Barton Beck	Ward 4	Absent
Cyndi Segroves	Ward 5	Present
Robert Blizzard	Ward 6	Present
George H. McFerron - Chair	Mayor/Council	Present
Jeffrey Handt – Vice Chair	Mayor/Council	Present
Phyllis A. Cowman	Mayor/Council	Absent
Jean Paul Jorquera	City Manager	Present (arrived at 2:44 p.m.)
Vacancy	City Manager	
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Staff Present	Representing	
John Zukas	City of Tucson Transportation Department	
Ralph Power	Sun Tran	
Mary McLain	Van Tran	
Alison Colter-Mack	Equal Opportunity Office	
Susan Jansen	Parks & Recreation	
Roger Phillips	Recording Secretary, City Clerk's Office	

2. Approval of Minutes – June 20, 2007

It was moved by Commissioner Pesce, duly seconded, and passed by a voice vote of 7 to 0 (Commissioners Jorquera, Beck, and Cowman absent) to approve the minutes from June 20, 2007.

3. Staff Reports – Discussion/Recommendation/Action

- a. ADA Eligibility/Transportation – John Zukas reported that during September 2007 there were two hundred seventy seven (277) applications requested, three hundred twenty four (324) applications received, sixty nine (69) returned as incomplete, three hundred twenty nine (329) totally processed, five (5) denied and five point seven (5.7) days to process applications. A new staff member Judy Martinez had helped decrease the time needed to process applications. Mr. Zukas reported that within six months all Van Tran customers would use an electronic fare program. As of the middle of October, two hundred and five (205) people had signed up for the program.

Commissioner Blizzard asked about appeals to denied applications.

Mr. Zukas said appeals went before the ADA Paratransit Eligibility Appeals Board.

Chair McFerron asked about the applications that had been returned as incomplete.

Mr. Zukas explained these were those applications that had missing information and their office was unable to resolve. He said the most common problem was lack of a reference from a professional such as a physician.

- b. Sun Tran – Ralph Powers reported there would be a strategic planning retreat to determine the long-range objectives of the organization in order to strive towards operational and organizational excellence as defined through benchmarks. He said during September there had been ten (10) total

complaints, four (4) were lift related with the majority of the remaining being “stop calling” complaints.

Commissioner Blizzard asked about Transit Ambassador.

Mr. Powers said he had not had any recent conversations with senior management about Transit Ambassador, but would soon.

- c. Van Tran – Ralph Powers reported that passenger demand had risen by one point one four (1.14) percent in September 2007 over September 2006, however the number of trips had declined by point eight seven (.87) percent. An increase in the number of cancellations and no-shows accounted for this. Cancellations had increased by nearly seven (7) percent and no-shows by just over eight (8) percent.
- d. Parks & Recreation – Susan Jansen reported the first senior poolside event had been held at the end of September at the Edith Ball Adaptive Recreation Center. She said that class registration was still on an increase. She said the Presidio San Agustín de Tucson was open and encouraged all to come and see it. She said that Beth Lucas, Liddie MacNeil and Chuck Wacker were contacts for any issues regarding the Adaptive Recreation Center.

Commissioner Pesce asked about the fee structure at the Adaptive Recreation Center.

Ms. Jansen said there was a small fee for one time use, but one could also buy a year round pass. Discounts are based on a combination of numbers in a household and annual income. She said discounts offered at other centers did not apply at the Edith Ball Adaptive Recreation Center.

Commissioner Zimmerman asked what the temperature was in the therapy pool.

Ms. Jansen said it was maintained at approximately ninety two to ninety three (92-93) degrees.

Commissioner Blizzard asked if there was one contact person at Parks and Recreation for ADA accessibility issues.

Ms. Jansen said that Jane Duarte was that person.

- e. Equal Opportunity Programs – Alison Colter-Mack handed out an article about the dangers faced by the visually impaired when around hybrid cars. When the cars are in electric mode they are nearly silent. She reported there were some piping issues at Tucson Community Center (TCC) related to the ADA Department of Justice (DOJ) report. She said the Clements Center issues were complete and the report had been sent to the DOJ. The balcony at the Tucson Temple of Music and Art was undergoing renovations to become ADA compliant. Ms. Colter-Mack reported that to date two million four hundred eighty eight thousand three hundred eleven dollars (\$2,488,311.00) had been spent on ADA modifications at various City facilities. The Office of Equal Opportunity Programs was looking to secure a Title 2 Technical Trainer to conduct training for the department's inspectors. The City's Transition Plan was being reviewed for possible modification. There were three hundred (300) remaining facilities that still required self-audit by just two (2) staff members. She said there would be a meeting on October 31, 2007, concerning the City's Emergency Preparedness program's responses to the disabled community. She said the following week she would be attending the National Association of ADA Coordinators meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Commissioner Pesce asked what sort of complaints she had been receiving.

Ms. Colter-Mack said their office had not been receiving many complaints, rather they had gotten many thanks and compliments. She said the one complaint they had received

concerned accommodations at the TCC Music Hall and they were able to help the individual.

Commissioner Pesce asked if there was some standard time frame when requesting special accommodations at meetings.

Ms. Colter-Mack said the standard originally was seventy-two (72) hours, but now it is generally five (5) business days.

4. Call to the Audience

Maggie Hagen spoke about an incident that occurred at the Columbus and Speedway Village Inn where she was denied service presumably due to her disability and having a service animal with her.

Nancy Dippold asked about contacting the City Clerk's office for accommodations.

It was moved by Commissioner Blizzard, duly seconded and approved by a voice vote of 8 to 0 (Commissioners Beck and Cowman absent) to write a letter to Village Inn corporate offices expressing the Commission's concern and asking them to rectify the situation experienced by Ms. Hagen. Mr. Blizzard said he would write the letter.

5. Chairperson's Summary of Current Events – Informational Only

Chair McFerron said that on October 23, 2007, he would be receiving a proclamation at the Mayor and Council Meeting marking October as Disability Awareness Month. He also reported that on October 16, 2007, the Mayor and Council had passed the City's Inclusive Home Design Ordinance.

6. Commission Member's Summary of Current Events – Informational Only

Commissioner Segroves spoke about accessible cruises available to disabled individuals.

Commissioner Jorquera spoke about the Mental Illness Awareness Week events that took place the week prior.

7. Sub-Committee Reports

- a. Housing – Chair McFerron reminded the Commissioners that on October 23, 2007, a certificate of appreciation would be presented to John Wesley Miller Companies in recognition of their inclusive home design efforts.
- b. Public Relations/Education – Mr. Pesce said the next subcommittee meeting would be held on October 23, 2007, at the Holiday Inn Holidome.
- c. Services/Programs/Activities/Architectural Barriers (SPAA) – Vice Chair Handt reported that the subcommittee had met earlier that day and spoke about their goals. He also reported that Commissioner Segroves would be on the SPAA subcommittee.
- d. Transportation – Mr. Blizzard said the next subcommittee meeting would be November 21, 2007. Topics to be discussed would be bus shelters and accessibility and Sun Tran customer service. He also reported that Commissioner Segroves would be on the Transportation subcommittee.
- e. Employment – No report given.

8. Break – Recessed at 3:25 p.m. and reconvened at 3:35 p.m.

Chair McFerron announced that all members were present.

9. Budget Report and Expenditures – Discussion/Recommendation/ Action

Mr. Phillips reported the 2008 budget would be three thousand seven hundred ninety dollars (\$3,790.00). There had been two expenditures, three hundred dollars (\$300.00) for new bus signs and fourteen dollars ninety five cents (\$14.95) reimbursement for the

CODI Conference web page. This left a total of three thousand four hundred seventy five dollars and five cents (\$3,475.05).

10. CODI Membership Recommendations – Discussion/ Recommendation/Action

Chair McFerron discussed the requirements and the process for appointment to serve on the Commission. He also talked about the Commission members whose terms would expire in December and the process for reappointment.

Ken Rogers introduced himself and spoke about his qualifications and desire to serve as a member on CODI.

Tony King spoke about his desire to work on the Transportation Subcommittee should he be appointed to the Commission.

Commissioner Zimmerman suggested of the five resumes before the Commission, Mr. Rogers, Mr. King and Renee Scherling should be considered. Further discussion concluded that it should be narrowed down to Mr. Rogers and Mr. King.

It was moved by Commissioner Pesce, duly seconded and approved by a voice vote of 8 to 0 (Commissioners Beck and Cowman absent) to recommend the appointments of Tony King and Ken Rogers to CODI to fill the two vacant City Manager appointed positions.

Commissioner Segroves departed at 4:02 p.m.

It was moved by Commissioner Blizzard, duly seconded and approved by a voice vote of 7 to 0 (Commissioners Beck, Cowman and Segroves absent) to retain the other resumes submitted for consideration for future vacancies on the Commission.

11. Subcommittee Membership – Discussion/Recommendation/Action

- a. Membership – Chair McFerron said there needed to be a minimum of three Commission members on each subcommittee. He listed who was currently assigned to each subcommittee.
- b. Clerk’s Office support – Chair McFerron said support from the Clerk’s office to subcommittees would be limited due to the elections and encouraged members to try and schedule subcommittee meetings on the same day as the full Commission and at the East Side City Hall.

12. Future Agenda Items

Chair McFerron said the November meeting would occur as scheduled on November 21, 2007. The following were also discussed as possible topics for future meetings:

- Inviting guest speakers to give presentations every other month
- The Tucson/Pima County Women’s Commission on how to expand to include all of Pima County, not just Tucson
- University of Arizona Accessibility Course Results
- Tucson Housing Commission Trust Fund presentation
- Disability parking and other accessibility issues
- State Civil Rights procedures regarding disability issues
- Vocational rehabilitation presentation

13. Adjournment: 4:21 p.m.