



CITY OF TUCSON
 COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
 (CODI)

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting of the Tucson Commission on Disability Issues was called to order by Chair George McFerron on Wednesday, April 16, 2008, at 2:30 p.m., at Eastside City Hall Conference Room, 7575 E. Speedway Blvd., Tucson, AZ.

1. Roll Call

Commission Members	Representing	Present/Absent
Susan Zimmerman	Mayor	Present
Ray Figueroa	Ward 1	Absent
Timothy Shell	Ward 2	Present
Michael Pesce	Ward 3	Absent
Vacancy	Ward 4	
Cyndi Segroves	Ward 5	Present
Robert Blizzard	Ward 6	Present
George McFerron - Chair	Mayor/Council	Present
Jeffrey Handt – Vice Chair	Mayor/Council	Present
Vacancy	Mayor/Council	
Jean Paul Jorquera	City Manager	Absent
Anthony King	City Manager	Absent
Ken Rogers	City Manager	Present
Staff Present	Representing	
John Zukas	City of Tucson Department of Transportation	
Ralph Power	Sun Tran	
Susan Jansen	Parks & Recreation	
Draig Phillips	Recording Secretary, City Clerk's Office	

Chair McFerron presented a Certificate of Appreciation to former Commissioner Dr. Phyllis Cowman.

2. Approval of Minutes – March 19, 2008

It was moved by Commissioner Rogers, duly seconded, and passed by a voice vote of 7 to 0 (Commissioners Figueroa, Pesce, Jorquera and King absent) to approve the March 19, 2008 minutes.

3. Open Meeting Law – Dennis McLaughlin, City Attorney’s Office – Informational Only

Deputy City Clerk Deborah Rainone began a presentation regarding the Arizona Open Meeting Law (OML) with the following highlights:

- Who the OML applies to (any member of a public body).
- The OML was administered by the Arizona Attorney General’s Office and was complaint driven.
- Members of public bodies were held personally liable for any infraction.
- Items required on the Meeting Notice and Agenda.
- Official posting locations for the Meeting Notice and Agenda.
- What constitutes a quorum of the commission and what to do if the commission does not have a quorum.
- What a Legal Action Report was and what was required in it.
- What were Meeting Minutes and what was required in them.
- Requirements regarding voting on items.
- The restrictions surrounding discussions between commission members outside a meeting whether verbally or by email.

Principal Assistant City Attorney Dennis McLaughlin continued the OML presentation with the following highlights:

- When there was a need for a roll call vote as opposed to a voice vote.
- How to have items placed on an agenda.
- When there may be the need for a Public Notice that a quorum of the commission may be in at an event, but not to conduct commission business.

4. Staff Reports – Discussion/Recommendation/Action

- a. ADA Eligibility/Transportation – John Zukas reported during March there were two hundred twenty one (221) applications requested, three hundred eight (308) received, and fifty (50) returned as incomplete. There were two hundred seventy four (274) total processed, six (6) denied for two point two percent (2.2%) of the total, one (1) appeal which was upheld and three point eight eight (3.88) average days to process applications.

Mr. Zukas passed out a brochure that would be mailed and handed out to all Van Tran customers regarding the policies and improvements that have recently been approved. They would also be available at the Transit Services Division as well as upcoming informational meetings. This would be available in alternative formats such as large print, audio and in Spanish. Although the policies and improvements would go into effect May 12, 2008, the brochures would be made available beginning April 25, 2008.

- b. Sun Tran/Van Tran – Ralph Power spoke about some of the anticipated issues that might arise when the new Van Tran policies go into effect and how they intend to answer them.

In March the Sun Tran Transit Ambassador program conducted voluntary training with fifteen (15) participants for a total of sixty (60) total hours. There were six (6) presentations that reached five hundred and forty (540) consumers. Eleven (11) consumers participated in the Sun Tran Accessible Rider Training (START) program for a total of thirty-three (33) hours. There would be another training session at Sunnyside High School on April 24, 2008.

Twenty-nine thousand five hundred sixty six (29,566) customer service calls were received, as well as sixty-two (62) emails. Of those, there were seven (7) ADA complaints, and two (2) of these were chargeable.

Commissioner Segroves asked about the policy regarding animals being brought onto Sun Tran busses that were clearly not service animals. Specifically she wanted to know if animals were allowed on the busses if they were in a kennel.

Mr. Zukas said drivers are allowed to ask if it was a service animal, but not to question it if the answer was yes. He said there was no checklist that said how the service animal must be transported, whether in a kennel or not. Non-service animals (pets) were not allowed on the busses.

- c. Parks & Recreation – Susan Jensen passed out the new Summer Events catalogue. She also spoke on the following topics:
- Summer staff hiring was ongoing.
 - A new program in cooperation with the Tucson Alliance for Autism was being implemented.
 - The Southern Arizona Alliance for the Visually Impaired (SAAVI) would be developing summer programs with the Parks and Recreation Department.
 - In sponsorship with United Cerebral Palsy of Southern Arizona, the Tucson Kids' Try-Athlon would be held at the Edith Ball Adaptive Recreation Center on April 19, 2008.
 - The Tucson Lobos wheelchair basketball team was recruiting.
- d. Equal Opportunity Programs – Draigg Phillips read a report from Alison Colter-Mack on the following project activities:
- Work was continuing at the Tucson Convention Center at the Music Hall and the adjacent ramp. The outdoor areas had been corrected as well as pavers along Church Avenue.
 - The Hardesty Center still had some corrections needed, but the new directional signage for the ramp had been installed. Reconfiguration of the systems furniture in the Water Section was yet to be completed.
 - The Public Safety Training Academy was near completion with the exception of the women's restroom on the first floor.

5. Call to the Audience

No one spoke.

6. Break – Recessed at 3:32 p.m. and reconvened at 3:42 p.m.

Chair McFerron announced that all members were present.

7. Chairperson’s Summary of Current Events – Informational Only

Chair McFerron said that the Regional Transportation Authority Bicycle/Pedestrian working group was seeking representation from CODI. Efforts were being made to align Pima County’s version of the Inclusive Design Home Ordinance with the version that was passed by the City last year.

8. Commission Member’s Summary of Current Events – Informational Only

Commissioner Rogers asked if the Commission wanted to have a table at an event that the Community Partnership of Southern Arizona (CPSA) was putting on in May. He said CPSA was offering a program called Understanding the Basics of Arizona Government presented by State Representative Linda Lopez on July 14, 2008.

Commissioner Zimmerman said she would be missing the May and June meetings. She presented Willie Bonds’ resume and letter of interest to become a member of CODI.

Vice Chair Handt said he attended the land fill tour sponsored by Ward 2.

9. Sub-Committee Reports

- a. Housing – No report was given.
- b. Public Relations/Education – Commissioner Rogers said the speakers for the 2008 CODI Conference were being confirmed.

Will Bonds' wife had agreed to administer the web page free of charge. Fund raising efforts were continuing.

- c. Services/Programs/Activities/Architectural Barriers (SPAA) – Vice Chair Handt said the plans for the ADA adjustments to the El Presidio Trail were discussed at today's meeting. A site visit would be scheduled for the near future.
- d. Transportation – Commissioner Blizzard said the Subcommittee was working with Tucson Department of Transportation staff with regards to the new Sun Tran and Van Tran policies.
- e. Employment – No report was given.
- f. Legislation – No report was given.

10. CODI Representative to CTAC – Discussion/Recommendation/Action

Chair McFerron asked the Commission to reconsider appointing a representative to the Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC).

Commissioner Blizzard reiterated the roles and responsibilities of the representative as well as the purpose and activities of CTAC.

Discussion ensued and Commissioner Segroves said she would agree to serve as the CODI representative to CTAC

It was moved by Commissioner Rogers, duly seconded, and passed by a voice vote of 7 to 0 (Commissioners Figueroa, Pesce, Jorquera and King absent) to appoint Commissioner Segroves as the CODI representative to CTAC.

11. CODI Vendor Table at the Youth Disabilities Conference, April 23, 2008 – Discussion/Recommendation/Action

Discussion ensued and it was agreed that CODI would have a table at the Passport to the Future Student Leadership Conference at

Sunnyside High School on April 22, 2008 and that Commissioners Segroves and Zimmerman would be in attendance.

12. Builder Award for Accessible Housing – Discussion/Recommendation/Action

Chair McFerron led a discussion regarding whether the Commission wanted to make the Builder Award for Accessible Housing an annual event or not. It was agreed the event should be annual and it was suggested the criteria be expanded to include the design of all architecture, not just housing.

It was moved by Commissioner Blizzard, duly seconded, and passed by a voice vote of 7 to 0 (Commissioners Figueroa, Pesce, Jorquera and King absent) to delay the discussion to a future meeting.

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

- a. Reallocation to Our Family Services of \$500.00 for printing expenses related to the 2008 CODI Conference previously approved on January 16, 2008
- b. Bus posters for CODI Conference - \$180.00
- c. Bus stop Posters for CODI Conference - \$1,500.00

Commissioner Rogers asked if the proposed allocation of \$1,500.00 for bus stop posters for the CODI Conference locked the money in to that specific use or could it be used for other Conference-related items if all the money was not used.

Chair McFerron said if approved the money had to be used for the purpose specified.

It was moved by Commissioner Zimmerman, duly seconded, and passed by a voice vote of 7 to 0 (Commissioners Figueroa, Pesce, Jorquera and King absent) to allocate CODI funds as specified in the agenda.

14. CODI Annual Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson Nominations and Elections – Discussion/Recommendation/Action

Chair McFerron opened the floor to nominations for Chairperson.

Commissioner Zimmerman nominated Commissioner Blizzard for Chairperson, however he declined the nomination.

Commissioner Rogers nominated Commissioner Segroves for Chairperson and it was duly seconded.

Chair McFerron asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none he called for a motion to close nominations.

It was moved by Commissioner Zimmerman, duly seconded and carried by a voice vote of 7 to 0 (Commissioners Figueroa, Pesce, Jorquera and King absent) to close nominations for Chairperson.

Chair McFerron called for a roll call vote.

Upon roll call, the results were:

Aye: Commissioners Blizzard, Rogers, Segroves, Shell, and Zimmerman;
Chair McFerron, Vice Chair Handt

Nay: None

The appointment and election of Commissioner Segroves to be the new Chairperson passed by a roll call vote of 7 to 0.

Chair McFerron opened the floor to nominations for Vice-Chairperson.

Commissioner Zimmerman nominated Commissioner Rogers for Vice-Chairperson and it was duly seconded.

Chair McFerron asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none he called for a motion to close nominations.

