



CITY OF TUCSON  
 COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES  
 (CODI)

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting of the Tucson Commission on Disability Issues was called to order by Barton Beck, Chair, on Wednesday, November 15, 2006, at 2:30 p.m., at Eastside City Hall, in the Conference Room, located at 7575 E. Speedway Blvd., Tucson, AZ.

**1. Roll Call**

<b>Commission Members</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Present/Absent</b>
Ken Laux	Mayor	Absent
Vacancy	Ward 1	
Larry Lucas	Ward 2	Present
Michael Pesce – Vice Chair	Ward 3	Present
Barton Beck – Chair	Ward 4	Present
Vacancy	Ward 5	
Robert Blizzard	Ward 6	Present
George H. McFerron	Mayor/Council	Present
Jeffrey Handt	Mayor/Council	Present
Phyllis A. Cowman	Mayor/Council	Present
Jennifer Walker	City Manager	Present
Jean Paul Jorquera	City Manager	Present
Sharon M. Ferrari	City Manager	Absent
<b>Staff Present</b>	<b>Representing</b>	
Karin Erickson	Sun Tran	
Susan Jansen	Parks & Recreation	
Joe Yee	Human Relations Commission	
Rick Guerra	Recording Secretary, City Clerk's Office	
<b>Guests</b>	<b>Representing</b>	
Colette Altaffer	Guest	
Cuitlahuac Rhummel	Living Independently with Freedom and Equality (LIFE)	

## **2. Approval of Minutes – October 18, 2006**

MOTION by Mr. McFerron, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 9 to 0 (Mr. Laux and Ms. Ferrari absent) to approve the minutes of October 18, 2006.

## **3. Staff Reports - Discussion/Recommendation/Action**

- a. ADA Eligibility/Transportation – Karin Erickson reported for the month of October there were two hundred sixty-seven (267) ADA Eligibility applications requested, three hundred thirty-nine (339) applications received, twenty-seven (27) applications returned incomplete, three hundred thirty-nine (339) applications processed and three (3) applications denied. She also announced a hold on the debit voucher program until the accounting issues are worked out between the City of Tucson and the ADA Eligibility Office.
- b. Sun Tran - Karin Erickson reported for the month of October there were two hundred sixty-four (264) service reports, of those reports there were eighteen (18) inquiries, thirty-five (35) compliments and one hundred seventy-seven (177) complaints. Of those complaints, forty-two (42) were chargeable and one hundred thirty-five (135) were not chargeable.

Cuitlahuac Rhummel, Living Independently with Freedom and Equality (LIFE), announced he was working on a Mobility Training Program with Van Tran and Sun Tran to create an accessible and easier way for people with disabilities and the elderly to familiarize themselves with Sun Tran and Van Tran.

- c. Van Tran – Karin Erickson reported demand for ridership in the month of October was one hundred forty-six thousand eight hundred forty-nine (146,849); cancellations were twenty-eight thousand seven hundred twenty (28,720); no shows were seven thousand three hundred twenty-four (7,324) and actual total ridership were one hundred ten thousand eight hundred five (110,805).
- d. Parks & Recreation – Susan Jansen reported the first annual special event at the Milagro ADA fully accessible playground in Jacobs Park was a great success and that the Family Festival in the Park was being held at Reid Park on November 18, 2006. She also said she wanted to promote the importance of participating in the upcoming 2008 Pima County Bond Election with regards to phase two of the Adaptive Recreation Center.

- e. Equal Opportunity Programs – No report was given.
- f. Human Relations Commission (HRC) – Joe Yee expressed their commitment to the community for equal opportunity and helping those who have been discriminated against. He also said that HRC and CODI compliment each other in their goals for the community.

#### **4. Housing Visit-ability Design Ordinance Presentation by Colette Altaffer, George McFerron, and Tracy Williams; Followed by CODI Discussion/Recommendation/Action**

George McFerron said when this ordinance was started it was called the Visit-ability Design Ordinance, but the title had changed to the Inclusive Home Design Ordinance. He also said that the five (5) main points of focus are:

- Zero step entry into the home
- The interior doors along any accessible route on the floor where you would enter be a minimum of 32 inches wide
- Halls be a minimum of 36 inches wide level route through the ground floor
- Ground floor bathroom walls would be re-enforced to provide for possible future installation of handrails / grab bars
- Light switches, electrical outlets, thermostats and other environmental controls be accessible from a wheel chair.

Mr. McFerron said he was seeking the approval and support from CODI to take this ordinance forward and try to get it adopted in the City.

MOTION by Mr. Blizzard, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 9 to 0 (Mr. Laux and Ms. Ferrari absent) to promote the effort to pass the Inclusive Home Design Ordinance with the City of Tucson.

#### **5. Call to the Audience**

No one spoke.

#### **6. Break (10 Minutes)**

#### **7. Chairperson's Summary of Current Events - Informational Only**

Chair Beck announced that after eight (8) years Jennifer Walker was departing CODI and they wished her well. He also said that Naomi Ortiz had resigned from CODI. He welcomed Larry Lucas to the Commission.

## **8. Commission Members Summary of Current Events – Informational Only**

Mr. Blizzard said he spoke with Council Member Leal about the CODI vacancy in Ward 5 and asked that he interview the person before assigning them to CODI.

Ms. Cowman announced that after five years, she would be graduating from the University of Arizona with a Doctorate in Rehab Counseling.

## **9. Sub-committee Reports**

- a. Public Relations/Education – Mr. Pesce reported they were planning in conjunction with Martin Luther King, Jr. day, to do a workshop on “Disability Rights are Civil Rights” on January 11, 2007. They would be using the History of Disabilities tape that CODI had purchased. He also said they had begun planning for the Disability Conference and set a date of March 4, 2008 with the cost for four hundred (400) people to be about ten thousand (10,000) dollars.
- b. Services/Programs/Activities/Architectural Barriers (SPAA) – Mr. Handt reported that a meeting for next month was scheduled.
- c. Transportation – Mr. Blizzard reported Transit on the Move was moving forward with Rio Nuevo and that the contractors would work with himself, as a CODI representative, and a citizen committee which would be put together to look at infrastructure issues that would come near the modern street car. He also said that the Regional Transit Authority had put out their project list for the first phase, to be worked on in the first five years.
- d. Housing – Mr. McFerron reported Ernie Duarte, from Development Services, attended the Subcommittee meeting on November 1, 2006 where they discussed residential clusters projects. He also said they were trying to get Albert Elias, from Urban Planning and Emily Nottingham, Tucson Housing Authority to attend an upcoming Subcommittee meeting.
- e. Legislation –  
No report was given.
- f. Employment –  
No report was given.

**10. Budget Report**

Rick Guerra, City Clerk's Office, Recording Secretary reported that the remaining CODI funds in the fiscal year 2006 - 2007 budget at that time were \$3,029.66.

**11. Invitation From University of Arizona President Robert Shelton and the UA Disability Advisory Council to a Disability Issues Luncheon – Discussion/Recommendation/ Action**

Ms. Cowman said Robert Shelton, University of Arizona President had invited CODI to a luncheon. She said he had started a disability advisory council and would like to hear from CODI on what they feel the concerns and issues are of the people of Tucson, Arizona in regards to disability.

**12. CODI Letter Addressing New Procedures at the U.S. Post Office – Discussion/Recommendation/Action**

MOTION by Mr. Handt, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 9 to 0 (Mr. Laux and Ms. Ferrari absent) to table Item 12.

**13. Formation of Exploratory Committee to Examine the Feasibility of Expanding Tucson CODI to encompass all of Pima County – Discussion/Recommendation/Action**

MOTION by Mr. Handt, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 9 to 0 (Mr. Laux and Ms. Ferrari absent) to table Item 13 to April 2007.

**14. CODI Retreat – Discussion/Recommendation/Action**

MOTION by Mr. McFerron, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 9 to 0 (Mr. Laux and Ms. Ferrari absent) to table Item 14 to May 2007.

**15. Future Agenda Items**

Anna Martinez, Tucson Pima Council on Aging  
Mary McLain, Van Tran  
Aurora Foundation

**16. Adjournment: 4:50pm**