

City of Duluth
Commission on Disabilities
Monthly Meeting
September 7, 2011

Melissa Booth	P	Francis McGee	E
Clara Borrell	P	Patti Nadeau	P
Debra Burmeister	A	Tony Rubin	E
Roberta Cich	E	Beverly Strongitharm	E
Erica Erickson	P	Karin Swor	E
Lindsey Harkreader	E	Glenn Tridgell	E
Sara Junge	P	Randall Vogt	P
Durbin Keeney	A	Bob Grytdahl-Staff	P
Lars Kuehnow	E		

1. **Roll Call** - Galen White resigned from the Commission on Disabilities. The position of Vice-Chair is open. There are also two openings for new members. Contact Sara Junge if interested in the Vice Chair position. Erica Erickson expressed interest in the vice chair position.
2. August Minutes/September Agenda
Amendments to August minutes: Attendance-Galen White was absent and Bob Grytdahl was present. *Quorum not present to make a motion this meeting.*
3. Action Reports
 - A. Parks and Recreation
 1. Patti Nadeau reported on the baby swings at Bayfront Park. She contacted Kathy Bergen, the Director of Parks and Recreation, to look into the issue of an accessible pathway to the baby swings.
 2. The accessible trail at Enger Park will be open soon.
 - B. Accessibility and Tourism Task Force
There are no new reports.
 - C. DECC/Denfeld Auditorium Accessible Seating
 1. It was reported that Fran plans on visiting Denfeld in the next couple of weeks.
 2. Lindsey and Galen toured the DECC with Jeff Anderson and Dan Russell (Executive Director of the DECC) earlier this year. The commission plans to move forward and follow up with these projects. Sara will contact Fran and Lindsey to ask if they would volunteer to head up the follow-through.
 - D. Advocacy Updates
 1. City Training -We revisited Durbin's suggestion of the City partnering with the State Disability Council to train on Title II of the ADA and the responsibilities of local government.
 2. Meeting Room Change – We looked at another room in city hall as a possibility to hold future commission meetings. Commissioners will be notified if there is a

room change.

3. Other - The Commission discussed the 10% cut in corporate foster homes for individuals who have been determined to be “overserved”. There doesn’t appear to be clear criteria to determine which individuals are overserved

- E. St. Louis County 2012 Conference- Discussion took place on whether we wanted to participate next year. If so, what would we talk about? Universal Accessibility was mentioned as a possibility. Bob suggested checking to see if there are grants available to cover the cost of printing/posters for such a presentation. The topic was tabled for further discussion the next meeting.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Other Business
 - a. Commission Vacancies – We discussed our openings on the commission and who in the disabilities community would be beneficial to the commission, including business members. Some ideas were members from agencies who work with employment for people with disabilities such as Choice Unlimited, Goodwill, Lighthouse for the Blind, Arms workers.
 - b. Duluth Digs - The Commission discussed how we can work together with the Duluth Digs group in the future.

5. Announcements
On October 5, there will be a Press conference to announce the Disability Mural Project, Duluth's Oct. 19 exhibit at the DECC, and proclaim National Disability Employment Awareness Month (October 2011). When: Wednesday, October 5 at 11:00 a.m. Where: Mayor's Conference Room, 411 W First Street. The mural is debuting at the DECC from 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on October 19th.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Booth
Secretary