

City of Duluth
Commission on Disabilities
Monthly Meeting
October 5, 2011

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

Roll Call - Guest Gerald Salveson. Gerald has experience working with issues related to ADA compliance.

1. Approval of August/September minutes & Current Agenda
Quorum not present to make a motion this meeting.

As a reminder to commissioners, attendance at commission meetings is important in order for us to carry out and conduct business. Monthly meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 3:00 p.m. on the third floor of City Hall.

2. Nominations and election for Vice Chair

- A. Erica Erickson is the sole nominee for position of Vice Chair. The Commission hopes to make this appointment official at the next meeting, with a quorum present to vote.
- B. Discussion/names for commission openings- Applications will be forwarded on to candidates for open positions on the commission. Sara would like to resume the Election Committee. Let her know if you are interested in being on this committee.

3. Action Reports

A. Parks and Recreation

Patti Nadeau was not present to give a report.

B. Accessibility and Tourism Task Force

Randy Vogt provided the commission with a proposal for the Commission to partner with People with Disabilities for Change and Wheels on Trails, to promote equity in Tourism publicity in the Duluth area. The proposal includes promoting equity in maps (identifying accessible routes), graphics (showing people with disabilities participating in activities), and text/captions/stories that include people with disabilities. Randy will bring this proposal to People with Disabilities for Change to discuss the project with them.

C. DECC/Denfeld: Moving Forward

Sara Junge contacted Lindsey Harkreader and Fran McGee via email. Lindsey is willing to follow up with this project. Beverly Strongitharm reported that she attended the Denfeld open house. Sara will ask Fran to contact Kerry Leider at the school district. Beverly said that she and Karin Swor are interested in being involved too.

D. St. Louis County 2012 Conference - Erica Erickson will bring a brochure to the next meeting.

4. Public Comment

Sara will follow up with Jim Helig from the DTA to invite him to a Commission meeting to give another update.

5. Other Business

A. Yellow Ribbon Committee – Durbin talked about the Yellow Ribbon Committee. The committee educates businesses on their rights and responsibilities to returning soldiers. Durbin discussed the issue of health complications for returning soldiers and the difficulties they experience when they return to their jobs. The committee is partnering with the Department of Labor to present a training for businesses. Date and location to be announced..

B. Duluth Digs - Sara will email Drew to check the status of the Duluth Digs program.

6. Announcements

A. Arrowhead Alliance for Disabilities - Wednesday, October 19th, 2:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. at the DECC in the City Side French River Room.

B. Disabilities Mural Project Do we want a booth at the event? Gerald is willing to sit at a table for a couple of hours. There was a press conference to announce the project this morning. There are 20-25 tiles at the event with the artists who made the tiles. Sara spoke at the press conference and talked about the Commission and our goals.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Booth
Secretary

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