

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Commission on Disabilities
Wednesday
April 3, 2019
3:00 pm Room 303 City Hall
Meeting Changed to Mayor's Meeting Room on 4th Floor

Ann Roscoe P	Amanda Crosby E	Tom Furman P	Guests:
Amy Burke P	Roberta Cich P	Dianne Naus P	Mark Bauer
Michelle McDonald P	Meghan Terella P	Jessica Cook A	Carl Crawford
Beverly Richarson A	Laurie Berner P		Laura Laaksonen
			Tera Wilson
			Jordon Olson
			Samantha Smigler
			Alicia Koslowski

Welcome, Roll Call, and Meeting opening at 3:00 pm

- 1. Approval of Agenda MSC (Berner, Roscoe)**
- 2. Approval of March 2019 Meeting Minutes MSC (Burke, Roscoe)**
- 3. Public Comment/Information:** Disability Mural Project – Great success – Mr. Crawford shared, “Tile are magnificent and powerful!”
A permanent home is being explored to display the 300+ art tiles. Chair Cich shared the background on the project created by artist Bridgette River-Smith. Ms. Berner was able to share more history and purpose of the project.
Alicia Kozlowski was introduced as Duluth’s new Community Relations Officer. Welcome!
- 4. Accessible Parking Update** – Mr. Bauer reports approval on 3229 Chestnut and 2116 W 3rd Street (combined 3 zones into one long zone).
Since 2018, there has been approx 28 new zones added along with 5 zones retired/removed but shared the numbers could be as high as 10 more to each group.
Phase II Superior Street Project: Mr. Bauer met with project engineer to review specific ADA zones and there will be a net gain of a couple zones. There will be movement of a couple zones slightly due to project but reinforced no elimination of zones. The topic of movement may be brought to city if there are concerns with businesses.
Chair Cich shared concerns over access during construction – particularly in the area of Access North and PS Rudie and Associates. Ms Crosby stated she spoke with Annie from Northland Construction and Annie assured at least 5 feet of firm and stable ground during construction out front of Access North.
Chair Cich gave an FYI that a blog shared information on parking in one of the ramps will allow the Playhouse to provide wheelchair access and assistance as needed.
Ordean Building Accessible parking – No new info but Ms. Berner shared that Mayor Larson came to the last People First Meeting at the Ordean Building. Mayor Larson is fully supportive of an accessible spot in front of the building.

5. **Parks and Rec** – Ms. Crosby reported that 1) DWP Trail Committee members had great questions on ADA and ABA (architectural barriers). 2) New city maps showing designated accessible parks will be printed. 3) Margo Indieke Cross has offered to come to Parks Meeting in June or July to answer Parks Commission questions.

6. **Old Business**

Letter to Editor – Published in paper on 3/17 by Chair Cich regarding the impact of banning straws.

UMD Access for All – Mr. Crawford shared that UMD continues to explore community members to come to a Disability Commission Meeting. Secretary McDonald shared that she will extend information and an invite to St. Scholastica Senate Co-President.

7. **New Business**

Commission Bylaws – a copy was distributed for review. Mr. Crawford will look for electronic version. Ms. Berner, Chair Cich, and Ms. Crosby will create a Commission Bylaw's Committee to review goals and objectives with a report back to the Commission next month.

8. **Current Disability Issues**

Snow Removal Task Force – Committee Mr. Crawford, Chair Cich, Ms. Crosby, Ms. Burke, Ms. Roscoe, and city staff Cheryl Skafte – a Pilot Project was created and has accomplished an application for assistance, an application for volunteers, timeline for rollout, fee for service, press release set for August – all of which has gone through a city review. Next Meeting April 9th.

9. **Other Business and Announcements**

Chair Cich and Mr. Crawford presented People First Language and Disability Awareness to Duluth's Planning Department.

Chair Cich shared that she was invited back to present during Visit Duluth's Hospitality Training "I'm A Tourist Too" in May.

Ideas to possibly develop a presentation to the Rotary and Chamber of Commerce on People First Language, Disability Etiquette, and service animals was discussed and led to the Commission discussing the purpose and intent. Commission reminded that we do hear language that we may find offensive and rather than correcting others, Commission can continue to be role models in People/Person First Language and etiquette.

Samantha Smigler shared that the Aquarium is working to reduce barriers. The Aquarium has reduced ticket prices for youth. Ms. Smigler requested support in the form of a letter from the Commission to the city to install a bus stop near the waterfront area.

MSC (Roscoe, Burke) for the Commission to create a letter sharing our support for a bus stop near the waterfront so the community increases access to Aquarium, Irving, DECC, Pier B, Playfront/Bayfront, and Vista.

Ms. Berner shared info on Self Advocacy Conference – May 18, 2019 with a focus on Leadership.

10. **Adjourn MSC (Berner, Roscoe) at 4:02 pm** Respectfully submitted by: Michelle McDonald