

City of Duluth
Commission on Disabilities
Monthly Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2015

Melissa Booth	E	Beverly Richardson	P
Amy Burke	P	Ann Roscoe	P
Amanda Crosby	E	Gerald Salveson	P
		Beverly Strongitharm	P
Amy Hill	A	Derek Uttley	A
Amber Madoll	P	Randall Vogt	A
Michelle McDonald	A	Beth Wilde	E
Becky Perrett	P	Bob Grytdahl – Staff	E

1. Welcome-Roll Call
2. Approval of current agenda- In addition to agenda, will add discussion of letter of support for the Housing Access Center to current disability issues and discussion of orange “parking violation tickets” in action and advocacy reports. Gerry motioned to approve the agenda; Ann seconded the motion.
3. Approval of February Minutes – Amy B. motioned to approve the March minutes, Beverly seconded the motion.
4. Current disability issues- Commission members voted to show support for the Housing Access Center proposal through signing a support letter. The Housing Access Center will work to improve tenant/landlord relationships, offer ready to rent classes, offer resources for landlords, and act as a mediator for rental issues. Becky motioned to approve support, Amy B. seconded the motion.
5. Outstanding reports
 - a. Action and Advocacy Reports- Commission members received orange “Parking Violation Notices” from the Minnesota State Coalition on Disability. These notices are a way to remind drivers if they are breaking a disability law without issuing a ticket.
Matthew Kennedy and Mark Bauer from City of Duluth Parking Division offered some suggests to the commission about using these tickets. He suggested that the Commission talk with the Chief of Police and the City Attorney before giving these reminders on cars. They did offer an alternative option for Commissioners to become trained as “citizen volunteers” to issue actual city parking violations. This would include training to learn the process before being able to issue tickets.

Also discussed the duties of the City of Duluth parking and where they generally issue tickets. From 2009-2013, they issued an average of 139 tickets/year to cars that were parked in or blocking a disability/handicapped zone. In 2014 they gave 186. The commission was updated that City of Duluth does not go into private lots (such as store lots) to issue tickets unless the store notifies them. City of Duluth focuses on the streets and City of Duluth parking areas.

Lastly, the parking division would like to collaborate with the commission on this effort in whatever way they can. If there are parking issues during business hours, the public can call 218-730-5419 to report these events. If after hours, Matthew and Mark encouraged the public to call 911 for parking matters.

- b. Parks and Recreation- At the last parks and rec meeting, the changes to the Western Waterfront were discussed and the ADA guidelines will be utilized during this process.
6. Public Comment:
- a. John Nousaine, Director at North County Independent Living presented two upcoming events in the area to the commission. First, North County Independent Living is having an Expo at the Mariner Mall in Superior on July 23rd from 11am-4pm. The Expo will include food, music, adaptive equipment demonstrations. Entertainment, silent auction, prizes and more. This event is free and open to the public. Next, on July 7th at 11:00 am the Duluth Mayor will be making a proclamation for the ADA celebration and the arrival of the Freedom Bus at City Hall. At 11:30 the bus will drive to Superior and at 12:30 the Superior Mayor will make a proclamation at the Mariner Mall. A celebration of the ADA's 25th anniversary will be held until 3 pm.
 - b. John O'Neill, professor at UMD, presented his awareness campaign, titled "Whaat?" to the commission. The campaign highlights personal stories of people with disabilities that their "what moments" of subtle discrimination. The campaign is trying to bring awareness to these things. This campaign can be found online, on facebook, and on twitter. For more information see: <http://www.theawarenesscampaign.com/>
7. Accessible Parking Requests: None
8. Announcements/Upcoming Events: None
- Beverly S. motioned to adjourn the meeting and Gerry seconded the motion.

The next Commission on Disabilities meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 3, 2015 at 3:00pm at City Hall, room 303.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Perrett, Secretary