

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Commission on Disabilities
Wednesday
May 1, 2019
3:00 pm Room 303 City Hall

Ann Roscoe P
Amy Burke P
Michelle McDonald P
Beverly Richarson P

Amanda Crosby E
Roberta Cich P
Meghan Terella P
Laurie Berner E

Tom Furman P
Dianne Naus
Jessica Cook

Guests:
Mark Bauer
Carl Crawford
Tera Wilson
Jordon Olson
Samantha Smigler

Welcome, Roll Call, and Meeting opening at 3:04 pm

1. **Approval of Agenda MSC (Burke, Roscoe) with the addition of DTA under Public Comment**
2. **Approval of April 2019 Meeting Minutes MSC (Roscoe, Burke)**
3. **Public Comment/Information:** Guest, Samantha Smigler shared with the Commission how the Aquarium's Board, staff, Lighthouse Center, and Director of DECC presented at the DTA Board Meeting on 4/24 regarding the consideration to install a DTA bus stop near waterfront. The group shared 14 letters of support (including the Commission's). Next mtg is May 24 at 4pm.
Also shared during discussion: a new fully accessible DTA trolley which stops at the transit center has been added to the vehicles under the DTA.
4. **Accessible Parking Update**
In an effort to expedite minutes, only a total number of zones will be included in official minutes each month. Addresses of approved ADA Zones are public record and can be accessed electronically.
Mr. Bauer reported the Parking Commission approved: on April 12th three applications, May 3rd meeting will include 6-7 site visits to be reported by Mr. Bauer to the Parking Commission.
Ordean Building Accessible Parking
Chair Cich shared that a meeting is being coordinated with MnDot Accessibility Specialist and discussion of 3 options. More info to follow.
5. **Parks and Rec – Tabled**
6. **Old Business –**
UMD Access For All – Commissioner Furman reported his attendance at the April Meeting. The group is looking to increase awareness involving UMD's Disability Commission. Commissioner Furman added that the group is seeking community member positions and invited the UMD's group to check out this Commission.
7. **New Business**
Commission Bylaws – Chair Cich asked the Commission for feedback on:

Bylaws – no changes recommended

Goals and Objectives: Tabled to allow committee to reconvene and meet.

Chair requested Commission's feedback regarding the Commission's ability to interact with community through advisement, provide resources, or facilitate trainings. Feedback should be sent to Chair Cich.

Mr. Crawford shared that since the Commission has been active in particular areas, he recommends the Commission should consider developing a narrative history that can be published on city's website.

Secretary McDonald will email Commission members meeting minutes from current back to 2018 in order for Commission members to review minutes and gather highlights of the Commission to share on the city's website.

8. **Current Disability Issues**

Snow Removal Task Force – Chair Cich updated that full group has not been able to meet yet members have been able begin creating information for public when snow removal is needed. Also shared that marketing will begin in August or September for Pilot Project.

Restroom Access Act – Chair Cich and Mr. Crawford shared info regarding an email involving a child being denied access to restroom. The Commission discussed state statute 325E.60 and how individuals with specified disabilities have the right to use a working restroom under the law even if it is "employee only" and not a public. The Human Rights Office is drafting a letter to bring awareness.

The Commission and guests discussed more instances of inaccessible restrooms on the UMD campus and area. Commissioner Furman shared that UMD Access for All is working on maps highlighting where existing accessible restrooms are located on campus. Other discussion included: guest Ms. Wilson added push buttons on several buildings at UMD are inoperable. Chair Cich reminded Commission that state statute involving interior doors is 5 pounds of pressure and exterior doors are not covered under ADA statute. Mr. Bauer recommends making it a habit and testing buttons on doors while in the community. Mr. Crawford will followup and contact UMD facility management regarding Ms. Wilson's observations.

DTA and Personal Care Attendants – Mr. Crawford shared issues where an individual with a PCA accompaniment was told by DTA driver the PCA had to pay for fare. PCA's accompanying an individual they are supporting *do not* have to pay bus fare on the DTA. The individual has faced denial and Commission discussed the issue and the need for driver education. Chair Cich shared that she has contacted DTA representative and asked them to review the archaic policy on DTA's website.

Employment Conference – Mr. Crawford shared info on Workforce Development and DEED developing a conference/training on Employment for People with Disabilities. The target audience is employers. More details to follow.

9. **Adjourn – MSC (Richardson, Burke) at 4:07 pm**

Respectfully submitted by: Michelle McDonald