

City of Duluth
Commission on Disabilities
Monthly Meeting
August 1, 2012

Melissa Booth	P	Amber Madoll	P
Clara Borrell	A	Francis McGee	P
Roberta Cich	P	Beverly Strongitharm	P
Erica Erickson	P	Karin Swor	P
Sister Mary Carla Flood	P	Randall Vogt	A
Lindsey Harkreader	P	Derek Uttley	E
Sara Junge	P	Gerald Salveson	P
Ray Kleveter	P	Bob Grytdahl-Staff	P
Lars Kuehnow	A		

Roll Call

1. Approval of June Minutes/Current Agenda

June minutes and agenda approved as written.

2. Correspondence

- a. Health and Human Service Conference is October 8-9, 2012.
- b. The Choice Unlimited Newsletter was shared with commission members.
- c. Information about the Civility Project was shared with commission members.

3. Signage Requests

- a. Olimpis Kaduszkiewics – 2223 W. 2nd Street – Melissa visited this residence. The garage in the back is inaccessible. The resident has limited mobility and is unable to walk to the garage, which is uphill from the house. Recommend approval of signage request. *Melissa Booth motioned to approve the request. Ray Kleveter seconded the motion. Motion is approved.*
- b. William Krueger – 919 E. 5th Street – Ray visited this residence and recommended approval of signage request. *Ray Kleveter motioned to approve the request. Gerald Salveson made the second. Motion is approved.*
- c. Patrick Rix – 1536 N. 8th Ave. E. – New for assignment. Sara Junge will visit this residence.
- d. Work Group Report -- Bob and Sara met with Steve Goman and discussed observations and concerns about the current review process for signage requests. Sara distributed handouts to summarize the discussion on the parking office process, the commission's role in evaluating signage requests, and procedures for obtaining accessible parking zones for disabled persons. Commissioners gave feedback on the information in the handouts. Sara will forward the recommendations on to Steve.

4. Action and Advocacy Reports

- a. Voter letter revision – Amber Madoll provided a copy of the revisions for commissioner review. Ray recommends having 6-7 short paragraphs for a newspaper article. Sister Mary Carla suggests we get the letter out sooner rather than later. Bob suggested that the letter include how the voter ID issues affect the average person, in order to get their attention.

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Commissioners were instructed to send revisions to Amber in the next two weeks. She will then send the revised letter to the Duluth News Tribune.

- b. Health and Human Services Conference – The proposal for the breakout session will be round table discussion on accessible transportation.
- c. Taxi Task Force -- Update and discussion. New York and Washington D.C. are required to provide accessible taxis. Roberta and Erica will do some further research. Sister Mary Carla will call Phoenix to get information about their accessible vans.

Bob, Lars, Amber will discuss who we want as part of the task force. Recommendations were made to bring in people with expertise, and partner with Arc and People with Disabilities for Change.

Roberta mentioned that the disability linkage line keeps a listing of accessibility transportation in the area.

- d. Parks and Recreation – Grants were awarded to Wheels on Trails, and People with Disabilities for Change.
 - e. Other Roberta Cich –
 - 1. Roberta reminded commissioners that the correct person first language to use is accessible...disability is not a handicap. The origin of the word handicapped came from people with disabilities on the corner begging with their cap in their hand.
 - 2. During the recent flood disaster efforts representation for people with disabilities were present at disaster relief centers (people who lost ramps, etc. in the floods).
5. Public Comment - Erica Erickson informed commissioners of a voting law proposal that may restrict people under guardianship from voting unless they can prove they're competent to do so.
6. Other Business -
- a. Accessible Parking -- There are accessible parking spots being installed on 1st Street and 4th Avenue West.
 - b. Skywalk -- The doors belong to the owners of the buildings they're attached to. People in wheel chairs have been trapped in the Mesabi Building. It took five years to get accessible doors by Subway.
7. Announcements – There were no announcements.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Booth
Secretary

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