

City of Duluth
Commission on Disabilities
Monthly Meeting
September 1, 2010

Melissa Booth	P	Francis McGee	P
Clara Borrell	P	Patti Nadeau	E
Debra Burmeister	A	Tony Rubin	P
Roberta Cich	P	Beverly Strongitharm	P
Erika Erickson	P	Karin Swor	P
Lindsey Harkreader	A	Glenn Tridgell	A
Sara Jung	P	Randall Vogt	P
Durbin Keeney	P	Galen White	P
Lars Kuehnow	P	Bob Grytdahl—staff	P

Guests: Julia Matson and Sara Romagnoli

1. Minutes --*August minutes approved as written.* The current agenda was altered by Karin Swor to include the Denfeld auditorium under other business, but then retracted for further discussion at another time.
 2. Signage Requests – No signage requests today.
 3. Parks & Rec. – No parks and recreation report.
 4. Snow removal task force: Community Action Duluth, the YMCA and Fit City Duluth have started an initiative within the city. Bob and Roberta attended the initial meeting. If you are interested in being involved, please let them know. Next meeting is September 14. The DTA was represented at the meeting as well.
 5. Update on Irving Community Club – Karin Swor spoke on behalf of Kristin Ridgewell, not present, and SVCNDA (Spirit Valley Citizen’s Neighborhood Development Association). Discussion followed the accessibility issues at the sight. They are applying for grant money to renovate the space. Bob advised the group to involve their city councilor on the issues. Julia and Roberta stated interest in connecting with Kristin and initiating discussion regarding the space and brainstorming solutions. Will bring back discussion to the October meeting.
- Durbin Keeney moved to allow Roberta Cich to represent the Commission in this discussion with Irving. Lars Kuehnow seconded. Motion passed.*
6. Public Comment – No public comment today.

7. Review of goals and action steps -- Clara and Galen volunteered to create a 'progress report' on goals and highlight what we may be missing. Will give their update at the October meeting.
8. Other business:
 - a. Radisson update: Postponed until next meeting. Haven't connected with the city for their update on terms, building permits and compliance with the MN statute. Stay tuned.
 - b. NorShor update: Roberta, Galen and Bob toured the space with city officials. Concerns noted – no accessible bathroom on the main floor, and no access to the 2nd floor. Roberta and Bob then met with the Mayor and new president of DEDA and provided education about accessibility concerns, and issues most important to address in order to be in compliance with Title II of the ADA. Future opportunity available for further education on the ADA with city officials. Asked that events not be held on the 2nd floor until access can be improved and discussed options for bathrooms on the main floor.

Discussion followed regarding the Commission's role in advocacy and partnering with other groups and agencies that address common goals as well as on educating the public regarding accessibility and the ADA. Commission members expressed their appreciation of Roberta's and Bob's efforts on behalf of the Commission with the recent accessibility projects.

- c. ADA Employer training – This event will take place October 18 from 1:00-3:00 in the Green Room at the Library. Cindy Tarsish will speak along with Drew Digby. Sara Romagnoli has contacted Sandy Plant with the local HR association about offering CEU credits. She stated DEED will print the invitations. Other discussion deferred to the sub-committee planning group.
 - d. Holiday Inn letter
Durbin Keeney moved to approve mailing the letter that Galen White wrote regarding power door access at the front entrance of the Holiday Center. Beverly Strongitharm seconded the motion. Motion passed.
 - e. Mobility Expo at the DECC October 8 -- Roberta asked if the Commission should/could have a booth there. The cost is \$85.00. Bob will check into funds.
Durbin Keeney moved to approve a request to have a booth at the expo. Lars Kuehnow seconded the motion. Motion passed.
9. Announcements:
 - a. Durbin Keeney shared that the Veteran Standown Friday, August 27 at the Encounter was very successful. Many thanks.

Next commission meeting will take place October 6, 2010. Room 303 City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Junge
Commission Secretary

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