

Minutes

Minneapolis Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities January 18, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Ken Rodgers at 4:32pm. Members, staff and guests introduced themselves. Committee has quorum with 8 of its 15 members present.

Members Present: Dorothy Balen, Michael Foster, Martha Hage, Donna Hemp, Omar Magana, Lee Perish, Ken Rodgers, Amanda Tempel, Joan Willshire, and Keith Swanson.

Members Absent: Connie Moore, Tracy Reid

Members Excused:

Guests: Council Member Reich, Ward 1.

Staff Present: Ruth Kildow, MDHFS; Ahmed Muhumud and Cheyenne Erickson, NCR; Toby Broadrick, MPRB.

Interpreters: Bridget Sabatke.

Approval of January 18, 2012 Agenda

Dorothy Balen moved to accept the agenda, Ken Rodgers 2nd the motion, all approved.

Approval of December 21, 2011 Minutes

Joan Wilshire moved to accept the minutes, Michael Foster 2nd the motion, Lee Perish abstains, Minutes approved.

Ward 1 Update – Council Member Kevin Reich

Council Member Reich currently serves Northeast and Southeast neighborhoods. CM Reich's key priorities are Transportation, Housing and the Budget and feels that it is important to maintain our roads and not defer many repairs. The City has advanced mobility in terms of our bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure but is behind in terms of rapid transit commuter rail lines.

Member comments:

- Does your ward include the large silos in Southeast?

- No, ward 1 includes a portion of the Southeast Como Neighborhood.
- Are there any areas in your ward without sidewalks?
 - There is one area, along 18th avenue from Stinson to Cleveland. On the other side of the avenue there is a sidewalk that can be used.
- Has any work been done to make the Art-A-Whirl festival more accessible?
 - Art-A-Whirl is an independent event and large studio owners were able to respond best in creating better access. The Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association runs the event.
- Are there any new developments in the ward for the committee to give input?
 - There have been a few acquisitions of properties. One is for a car repair shop and the former Burger King site on 18th and Central Avenues has been purchased by Scott Takenhoff.
- Do you know the number of accessible units?
 - Unsure of the exact number. Many of the units have been built after 1990's. The high-rises on Central Avenue and the Monroe Village high-rise are both accessible.
- What is the status of the Don't Dump on Northeast initiative and the current Minneapolis Public School Headquarters?
 - The Don't Dump on Northeast is a citizen reaction to the City/County effort to put in recycling plant. The site is an old steel factory and is zoned properly.
 - There have been preliminary discussions with the Community Planning and Economic Department (CPED) and developers who have the needed experience.
- The Committee would like to be involved with the planning of the new Vikings Stadium to ensure that it is fully accessible.
- Will taxes increase as a result of the Vikings Stadium being built in Minneapolis?
 - There is still a lot of grey area, it could be a re-direct of current taxes. That plan has not been developed.
- Are there any major street projects?
 - One area, known as the worst street in the city, 33rd and Talmage to East Hennepin is getting redone. Also a dirt and tar road on Winter Street NE is getting repaved as well.
- The intersection of Johnson Street NE and 18th Avenue is missing a feature that could alert pedestrians to the oddly shaped intersection.

- **Council Member Reich will work with the county and is currently positioning for a redesign there and could propose upgrades there too.**

Neighborhood and Community Relations, Ahmed Muhumud, NCR

Discussion was held regarding a miscommunication regarding the ASL interpreting contract and attendance at the meeting. Ahmed also discussed the procedure to handle ADA complaints and gave examples of complaints that have been received, and explained that the department set up an ADA liaison Network through all City Departments.

Discussion was held on the Draft ADA Title II Complaint forms that have been provided by the department. Comments or suggested changes to the forms should be sent to Ahmed Muhumud.

Member Comments:

- **ASL interpreting contracts should be confirmed on an annual basis and it is appropriate to request confirmation from the interpretation company the day before the meeting.**
- **The ADA Title II complaint forms should be generic and could be used for other ADA complaints, like Title I or III.**
- **When a person calls 311 to report an accessible issue regarding a crossing signal, does the call go to the Public Works Department or to NCR?**
 - **The report would be funneled to Public Works. If the report is not getting resolved, NCR would then get involved.**
- **311 should have a check box or button to identify if the call is related to an ADA issue.**
- **Are there reports available from 311 regarding ADA calls?**
- **What staff person could assist regarding the talking lights on Nicollet mall?**
- **Freedom Funds have been able to install automated pedestrian crossing signals.**
- **The committee would like to receive ongoing quarterly reports regarding ADA related complaints**
- **The Caribou Coffee on 5th and Nicollet has their creams and sugars placed higher than 60 inches.**

Motions:

- **Motion to request 311 track all ADA related calls. All approved.**

Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board, Toby Brodrick

Moving to bring to reality the 1st accessible playground, volunteers are needed to serve on the committee. Also, on December 29th the chair of the Park Board received a letter from the NAACP regarding an environment that is not friendly to communities of color. The letter included complaints from both employees and consumers.

Taxi Cab Task Force: Last meeting of the task force had no attendance. Amanda will work one on one with Grant Wilson in licensing and will bring forth the work to the committee for final approval.

Announcements:

- **Matthew Schuelka resigned from the Committee.**
- **Connie Moore has had more than 3 unexcused absences.**
- **Elections for Chair and Co-Chair will be held in February.**

Motions:

- **Motion to have the January 18th, 2012 MACOPD Minutes reflect the gratitude for Margot Imideke Cross's dedication to the committee.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.

Respectively submitted by Cheyenne Erickson.

Next meeting: February 15, 2012 - 132 City Hall.

Action List:

- **Access Committee will contact the Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association regarding the 2012 Art-A-Whirl event and creating better access.**
- **Create an FAQ sheet for 311 CSA's to easily identify ADA issues.**
- **NCR Staff to send ADA Title II documents to committee prior to February MACOPD meeting.**
- **Review ADA Title II Documents and provide comment to Ahmed Muhumud.**
- **Create a communication plan with a timeline to notify public that ADA complaint forms are available.**
- **Michael Foster, Chair of the Access Committee will contact Dan Callaghan regarding the possible Trader Joes along Lyndale Avenue.**

- **Provide a list of questions/best practices to CM Lilligren regarding the opposition of the use of salt to clear ice in the winter.**