

Minutes

Minneapolis Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities February 15, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Ken Rodgers at 4:35pm. Members, staff and guests introduced themselves. Committee has quorum with 8 of its 15 members present.

Members Present: Dorothy Balen, 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: Michael Foster

Guests: Council Member Gordon, Ward 2.

Staff Present: Ahmed Muhumud and Cheyenne Erickson, NCR; Toby Broadrick, MPRB; Don Stickney, 311.

Interpreters: Bridget Sabatke and Mary Catherine.

Approval of February 15, 2012 Agenda

Dorothy Balen moved to accept the agenda with the addition of the Community Connections Conference Update, Ken Rodgers 2nd the motion, approved, with Lee Perish abstaining.

Approval of January 18, 2012 Minutes

Keith Swanson moved to accept the minutes, Omar Managa 2nd the motion, approved, with Lee Perish abstaining.

Neighborhood and Community Relations, Ahmed Muhumud, NCR

Ahmed Muhumud gave a brief update on the 1st Annual Community Connections Conference that was held on Saturday, February 11th. The conference was well attended, with an estimated of 400 attendees. The theme of the conference was focused on building equity in our communities as well as increasing diversity and participation in our neighborhoods. The Department has heard great feedback from participants regarding the workshop presented by members of the Disabilities committee. Next year the Department will host the 2013 Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) Conference, it is a national

conference that brings people involved in neighborhoods and communities from all over the United States, the plan is to continue the theme of the Community Connections Conference.

The Department is also anxious for feedback of the grievance procedure documents so they can be sent to council for final approval. In addition the Public Works Task Force continues to meet on a regular basis.

Community Connections Conference Update, Presenters of the ADA Workshop

Three members from the committee created and presented a workshop at the conference titled, **Abled, Not Disabled: Moving your Neighborhood Beyond ADA Compliance**, there were some issues with the Q&A session, but overall the workshop went well and hope that they were able to convey the ADA message. Their overall conference feedback was that the conference over all was educational and interesting, NCR staff helped a great deal with navigation around the conference. The food at lunch was good, however the set up was hard for folks in wheelchairs to see and reach the different food options. Also, in the future it would be nice to send out conference materials in advance.

Discussion was also held regarding neighborhood festivals and the need to make them more accessible. It was suggested that staff work with licensing in hopes of working out some of the issues during the planning stages before summer arrives.

Ward 2 Update – Council Member Cam Gordon

Council Member Gordon discussed the Resolution for former committee member Margot Imideke Cross. He is in the process of collecting information, if you have pieces to add, please send them to him. There is no exact timeline for when the Resolution will be presented.

Council Member Gordon is also working on accessibility issues in City Hall, particularly working on getting a real staff person back working in the reception room. There are a few other options that are being looking into as well.

There is major construction happening in Ward 2 with the Light Rail construction and Riverside Avenue improvements. They are working

on maintaining access while construction is happening, specifically in certain sidewalk areas are not accessible.

Also, the redistricting process is under way and Public Hearings are being planned.

Member Comments:

- **Mandy Temple meet with the Somali Community at the Brian Coyle Center, not sure who to call with access issues, Ward 2 office or 311?**
 - **They can call both.**
- **Was the pedestrian Advisory Committee involved with the Riverside Avenue improvement project?**
 - **Not sure, talk to Anna Flintoft about what happened during construction.**
- **Any suggestions regarding summer festivals and getting the word out about accessible issues?**
 - **Send information to neighborhoods with a link.**
- **How has the tornado impacted the redistricting process.**
 - **The process is based on census counts from April 1st, 2010.**

Minneapolis 311, Don Stickney

Don gave a brief overview of the background of 311 and the call center is located on the 2nd floor of the 3rd Police Precinct on Lake Street in South Minneapolis. He also noted that recently he has reached out to 311 in San Francisco, California regarding ADA issues and efforts and he said that Minneapolis is leading the way with ADA related issues. There is also a 311 app coming soon that can be downloaded on smartphones and smart pads.

Don asked for feedback from the committee on what information 311 isn't capturing that would be helpful. Member Comments were:

- **Texting option – it is what is used almost exclusively in the deaf community. ‘**
- **Would like to get a better idea of what kind of reports are collected each month.**
- **Would like 311 to begin monitoring anything that is ADA related.**
- **311 wouldn't take a report regarding sidewalk shoveling, is there any way to make a report about a violation without having to give the exact address?**

- Don spoke with the sidewalk department and 311 can now create a report based on a range.
- A 311 agent was very hesitant to take a police report, they are supposed to be able to, it would be nice not to sense the hesitation.
- Are CSA's timed on calls? What are they evaluated on?
 - There is no measure to time the CSA's, they are measured on quality of the call and information passed to the caller.

Elections for Chair and Co-Chair of the Committee:

Motion for Ken Rodgers to serve as Chair of the committee, all approved.

Motion for Omar Magana to serve as Co-Chair of the committee, all approved.

Motions:

- **Motion to send official notification to Connie Moore that due to lack of attendance, she will be replaced on the committee, all approved.**

Announcements:

- **Michael Foster has stepped down as Chair of the Access Committee.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:36pm.

Respectively submitted by Cheyenne Erickson.

Next meeting: March 21, 2012 - 132 City Hall.

Action List:

- **NCR Staff will connect with licensing to regarding the planning process and permit approval process.**
- **Access Committee will review neighborhood festivals.**
- **Don Stickney will provide examples of reports to NCR Staff to distribute to MACOPD committee.**
- **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.**

- **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.**