

Minutes
Minneapolis Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities
May 16, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Ken Rodgers at 4:36pm. 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, Ken Rodgers, Amanda Tempel, and Joan Willshire.

Members Absent: Tracy Reid

Members Excused: Michael Foster and Keith Swanson

Guests: Council Member Don Samuels, Ward 5; Peter Rickmyer.

Staff Present: Ahmed Muhumud and Cheyenne Erickson, NCR; Janet Menglekoch and Sarah Reingold, MDHFS; Kim Brown and Bridgette Bornstein, Communications; Toby Broadrick, MPRB;

Approval of May 16, 2012 Agenda

Dorothy Balen moved to accept the agenda, Omar Magana 2nd the motion, all approved.

Approval of April 18, 2012 Minutes

Dorothy Balen moved to accept the minutes, Martha Hage 2nd the motion, all approved.

Ward 5 Update, Council Member Don Samuels

Council Member Samuels gave overview of current ward boundaries and future ward boundaries. Ward 5 will be losing the North Loop neighborhood; this will create a poorer Ward 5. This was a result of a Committee of the Charter Commission that wanted to make sure that minority communities could have a chance to elect a leader from within their community.

This summer construction will start on the interchange transportation hub. It will be located next to the twin's stadium and connects with bike paths and the Bottineau, Southwest and University rail lines.

Violence is down in the Ward, there have been 4 homicides for the entire year. The city has seen double digit crime reductions for 6 years in a row. The school district headquarters building will be completed this year. In addition, the Franklin Street Bakery wants to expand to the Northside; this would create 90 new jobs.

Council Member Samuels also stated that he supported the Viking Stadium bill, mostly because of the job creation and for economic stimulation. There are also plans in the works to build a healthy foods grocery store located at Penn and Plymouth.

Member Comments:

- **With the new school headquarters moving to West Board way, there will be an increased amount in traffic, will there be the needed updates to the pedestrian crosswalks.**
 - **Not quite sure about the crosswalks specifically, there are people working on transit related issues with the new construction.**
- **Were there any people with disabilities effected by the tornado, were and Public Housing units effected?**
 - **No Public Housing units were affected. There were some people with limited mobility that were affected; leaving the damaged housing was hard. Lots of efforts were made to contact people. TV and power lines were down; there were many door knocking teams that were able to reach people.**
- **What committees do you serve on?**
 - **Chair of the Public Safety, Civil Rights and Health Committee and a member of the Regulatory, Energy and Environment Committee and the Community Development committee.**

Department of Health and Family Support – Community Risk Assessments, Sarah Reingold

Sarah presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Community Risk Assessments the Minneapolis Department of Health and Family support has done. She explained that this is a statewide effort to identify the current readiness and gaps in preparedness with community sectors. The community risk assessment identifies; the likelihood that and event will happen, the severity of the impact of the event and the planning that has already taken place to mitigate the event. The outcome of this work will be to create a 5 year work plan.

Sarah asked for feedback from the committee regarding specific needs of people with disabilities during an emergency.

- **Electricity is very important, especially for those who use oxygen tanks.**
- **Important for people to carry information cards that can be shown to first responders.**
- **Have extra supplies available for folks who need it. Examples are wheelchairs, crutches, etc.**
- **Evacuation plans.**

MnDOT Status Report on Highway 65/Central Avenue Resurfacing Project

The Highway 65/Central Avenue Resurfacing Project will restore the pavement structure from Washington Avenue in downtown Minneapolis to 53rd Avenue NE in Fridley and Columbia Heights. The project will include some ADA curb ramp modifications within the City of Minneapolis.

The TH 65 resurfacing project will include reconstruction of curb ramps at non-signalized intersections within the City of Minneapolis bringing the ramps into ADA compliance. MnDOT and the City of Minneapolis are partnering on a separate project to replace the aging TH 65 signals (older than 30 years) within the City during the 2013 to 2016 timeframe. As part of the signal system upgrades, the intersection curb ramps will be reconstructed to ADA standards and APS improvements will be made.

The first project, undertaken in 2013, will rebuild 5 signal systems, which include the improvements described above, as well as install APS and rebuild the curb ramps at 6 of the newer signalized intersections (less than 30 years of age). The remaining 11 signal systems, including new curb ramps and APS, will be rebuilt within the 2014 to 2016 timeframe.

Member Comments:

- **Do you have a list of the 5 signal systems that will be rebuilt?**
 - **No, not yet.**
- **The City of Minneapolis has said that they have the list.**
 - **MnDOT has yet to see the list.**
- **Have you received any requests from the City regarding requests for installation of APS signals?**
 - **No.**

- Is there a formal process to request APS signals be installed?
 - No.
- There is an AAEO office in which APS signals can be requested.
- The prioritization tool is outdated and needs to be relooked at. This is an opportunity for People with Disabilities to serve on the committee that determines the criteria.
 - Yes, will bring forth the request form the committee to be involved in the process to regarding the prioritization tool regarding APS signals.
- At the intersections that are not receiving APS signals until 2014 or 2016 need to be reconstructed?
 - No, crews will lay the ground work necessary so the intersections do not need to be rebuilt.
- Other cities along HWY 65 are getting APS signals installed, why is this not the case along the portion in Minneapolis.
 - MnDOT owns the signals in Columbia Heights and Fridley, where Minneapolis owns the signals in Minneapolis and MnDOT owns the road. There are also fewer signals throughout Columbia Heights and Fridley than there are in Minneapolis.

Guests

Peter Rickmyer stated that he is concerned with how reasonable accommodations are being handled within the City. His house was damaged in the tornado and he disagreed with the amount that the city's assessor's office was assessing his property value at. He requested reasonable accommodations from their office regarding how they communicated with him.

Neighborhood and Community Relations Update, Ahmed Muhumud, NCR

Ahmed reported that there are some missing ramps along a portion of Nicollet Avenue. Some missing ramps will be included as a part of the reconstruction project in the area. Ahmed visited Kingsley Commons as a result of the discussion from the last meeting. The width of the space on the railroad crossing was about 4 inches. Ahmed spoke with some of the residents and found out that the County and Railroad are working to begin a project to fix the spacing in the fall.

The department is in the process of working on the senior's strategic plan and is working with the Wilder Foundation to gather basic

information and data analysis. Dorothy Balen volunteers to be a part of the steering committee.

Ahmed will be out of town June 12 – July 4th.

Member Comments:

- Make sure there is a process for re-consideration of ADA complaints.
- Bloomington has a good process for handling ADA complaints. Mandy will bring back information from Bloomington regarding their process for handling complaints.
- Please invite David Rubedor to attend the June MACOPD meeting.

Minneapolis Park and Recreation, Toby Broadrick

The Theodore Wirth beach will re-open on June 9th. It is also the 1st truly accessible beach and is equipped with a mobimat. The new plan for Powderhorn Lake is complete. It will be in front of the board for final approval on June 6th. Plan improvements include new lights and a cement path.

Other

Thursday, May 17th the Zoning and Planning Committee will hear an appeal for the demolition of Peavey Plaza. The Heritage Preservation Committee denied the demolition permit for the plaza.

Motion: Amanda Tempel moved that the Minneapolis Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities go on record in favor of the city granting a waiver to remodel Peavey Plaza in order to make it accessible to persons with disabilities, and a pledge that tax payer money will not be used to hold city sponsored events in the space until it is accessible to all, Omar Magana 2nd the motion, all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectively submitted by Cheyenne Erickson.

Next meeting: May 16, 2012 - 132 City Hall.

Action List:

- **Ahmed Muhumud will provide quarterly reports on ADA Title II complaints or requests for accommodation to the committee.**
- **Access Committee will review neighborhood festivals.**
- **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.**
- **NCR Staff will invite David Rubedor to attend next MACOPD Meeting.**