

Advisory Commission on Disabilities
Minutes
July 8, 2009

Commission Members Present: Joan Baltusis, Peter Berg, Judi Buckman, Diane Fleischel, Kathe Foxen, Laurie Jerue, and Mary Wright

Student Members Present: None

Staff: Marita Manning, Accessibility Coordinator

Others: Shoshanna Frank, Peggy Frank from Naper Settlement; Mark a cub scout.

Absent: Nancy Lullo, Carrie Noe

- I. Call to Order at 7:05 p.m.
- II. Introduction of visitors.
- III. Approval of Agenda.
Motion by Laurie Jerue and second by Kathe Foxen. All voted to approve.
- IV. Approval of the June Minutes
Minutes of June meeting are not available, will approve June and July minutes at August meeting.
- V. Public forum
 - A. Naper Settlement – Peggy Frank discussed the process of enrollment. Encourage disclosure at time of registration if there are special needs. Number of participants with disabilities. Last year one of the participants had a discipline problem. Settlement allowed participant to bring in an aide. Extended offer that family can bring aide at no additional charge. Some families take advantage of bringing aide; others don't.
Website was updated for terminology. Accessible parking is designated on maps. Brochure on school services is printed annually. Two disability based organizations link their website to Naper Settlement as places to visit. Frank will provide names of organizations to MACPD. The wheelchair lift was replaced with a ramp to chapel.
Kathe Foxen stated that on July 1, 2009, she participated in guide dog training at Naper Settlement. Berg commended policy of waiving admission fee for personal attendant as going above and beyond what law requires. Frank said it was good customer service.
Jerue asked question on information form requesting special needs and medical information including allergies. Rather than ask for diagnosis, perhaps ask if there are any accommodations needed to participate. Frank will consider wording suggested by Jerue to be incorporated in cover letter and/or packet without referencing medical condition.

Question on what types of accommodations have been made. There is some flexibility during camp day so they can shorten or lengthen activities or bring activities inside or outside. If there is a food allergy, won't have that food present. Ratio of counselors to campers is 1:8 or 1:10. . If short attention span, food or beverage requirements, streamline needs so no one identified as special, however counselors aware if extra assist needed so it is part of process.

Naper Settlement has not heard from family from last year, so they consider matter closed. Last year, child picked up sticks and was poking others. They have obligation to provide safe environment to campers. Child was taken aside but was not responsive. Could not sustain having staff assist child throughout program.

Berg volunteered commission would be willing to give feedback on brochures. Berg suggested having accessible formatting for screen reader in text document for low vision or blind.

VI. Communications received:

A. Marita stated that Nancy Lullo resigned from Commission and recommended Sally Johnson.

B. Phone call from group home resident in DuPage county regarding parking own vehicle overnight on street in Naperville. Manning to follow up for more information.

C. An E-mail was forwarded by a resident who was upset that prior advisory commission meeting minutes referenced drive by lawsuits. Resident thought commission was disparaging and pejorative of drive by lawsuits. Relevant portions of minutes from February 4, 2009 concerning drive by lawsuits were read aloud. Commission members concurred that it was not intent to discourage drive by lawsuits.

D. An E-mail from resident Wayne Cummings concerning Centennial Beach renovation and his request for Park District to install elevator inside bath house will invite Park district opportunity to make presentation to MACPD at August meeting. Invite resident to attend our August meeting.

VII. Old Business:

A. Strategic Plan Initiative

Documents were e-mailed to commission members earlier in the week. Timeline prepare survey to send to residents to identify community assets and needs. Draft prepared, some comments received.

Please rank only those areas that you have interest in, need or have knowledge of; possibly give choices such as always, sometimes, rarely or never.

Feedback starts with city services.

Not all sections need to be ranked same way.

Know the community assets exist, city services – what is your perception of whether city services/programs are accessible.

Community participation – try to include non-city items – that's where need/available comes in. Not seeking employment at this time – is not relevant b/c need is not applicable. Transportation is heading – could be bolded or box put in color - have checkboxes; no opportunity to score – eliminate comments from headings. Also put heading category on every page.

Discussion of who will type set - Manning – get it as close to how you want it to look.

Timeline need to have this done by July 31. Manning to write article for Bridges. Don't know what time frame for typesetting. It will happen.

B. Update on Turning Pointe. Plan commission requested someone from our commission attend their August 5, 2009 letter regarding our letter to them. Issue is that we have meeting on same night. Berg wants to have park district on our agenda first. Suggestion that our August meeting start time be moved to 6 p.m.

C. Central Park Band Shell. Wright requested that planners to bring plans to Commission for approval. Manning said planners believe plan is accessible because seating is not permanent, so companions can move seating to allow wheelchair to be adjacent to benches. Others concurred in request for planners attend.

D. Ribfest Debriefing. Jerue asked that Manning comments from Ribfest or any special events be brought back to Commission. Have exchange club or someone come back for report. Preference for Chair and logistics come back to answer questions. .

VIII. New Business

A. New commissioners: Victoria Perrault (attorney) and Victoria Ray Carlson (on NOD).

B. Sixth Annual Disability Pride Parade will be held on July 25, 2009 in downtown Chicago. Berg will be marching and invited all commissioners to join.

C. October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Berg suggested engaging City and Chamber to sponsor forum with speakers on ADA such as Robin Jones from Great Lakes ADA, Deb Russell or Randy Lewis from Walgreen's. Manning with help of Berg will contact John Schmitt, President of Chamber.

IX. Announcements

Manning has received several calls/complaints in her official position as ADA Coordinator for the City of Naperville.

The next meeting will be August 5, 2009.

Baltusis' daughter is volunteering at Coach House for respite care.

X. Adjournment

Commissioner Foxen moved to adjourn.

Commissioner Jerue seconded.

Vote taken. All were in favor of adjourning.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.