

Advisory Commission on Disabilities

Minutes

August 5, 2009

Commission Members Present: Peter Berg, Victoria Carlson, Kathe Foxen, Laurie Jerue, Carrie Noe and Mary Wright

Student Members Present: None

Staff: Marita Manning, Accessibility Coordinator

Others: Cindi Swanson; Ray McGury, (Naperville Park District); Mark Trieglaff (Consultant for WDSRA); Katie Sepe, (Naperville Park District); Andrew Caputo, (Williams Architect); Brad Wilson, (Naperville Park District); Eric Shutes, (Naperville Park District).

Absent: Joan Baltusis, Diane Fleischel, Victoria Perrault, Judi Buckman

- I) Call to Order at 6:02 p.m.
- II) Introduction of Commissioners and visitors
- III) Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion by Commissioner Noe and second by Commissioner Jerue. All voted to approve.
- IV) Approval of June and July minutes
 - a. Motion by Commissioner Jerue and seconded by Commissioner Noe. Modification made to draft. All voted to approve.
- V) Public Forum including Presentation by Naperville Park District Centennial Beach Project with Q&A
 - a. Eric Shutes, Director of Planning for The Naperville Park District, distributed a letter from Jane Hodgkinson, Executive Director of Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA) in favor of the Centennial Beach project. The work schedule for the Centennial Beach improvements is based on permitting process and will be delayed another six to twelve months. Currently, the project is scheduled to begin after the 2010 beach season.
 - b. Shutes held up a drawing which depicted several proposed areas from the bath house to the zero depth portion of the beach. The present accessible route is 420 feet. If an elevator is installed, the accessible route would be 325 feet to a concrete path; however, there are stairs connecting the concrete path to the zero depth area. If a lift platform is installed, the accessible route would be 271 feet. A lift is less costly than an elevator and can be integrated with the main path. The area chosen for the path using the lift is based upon the circulation path of beach users on the grass. This route will still entail grading. The District is leaning toward the lift which will coincide with the route used by the general public. The accessible path and lift would not be restricted to use by people with disabilities but can be used by everyone for integration purposes. Parents can use the lift with strollers as well.
 - c. Executive Director Ray McGury explained that he recently went through a site visit with a citizen who used a power chair and the user of the power chair made several suggestions including installing a railing at the end of the path along the downward slope to allow someone in a wheelchair a location to hold onto and/or a means to stop. A resting area will be at the concession area.

- d. Mark Trieglaff explained that he measured the slope of the current accessible route and overall it is at 5%. Some parts are 4 ½ % and some parts at 6%.
- e. Questions were asked about the accessible parking spaces, location of parking for bicycles, use of a matting surface to allow someone to roll into the water and whether the lift would allow for more than one person on it (yes). Questions were also asked about how well the special needs night at the beach were going and a comment that it was not advertised on the website. It is anticipated that it will be brought back next year. Upgrades will be made for access to paddleboats. Currently the capital improvement is scheduled for 2011, but it may be pushed back.
- f. Shutes stated the district wanted to gather feedback from the commission before they see if they will proceed. McGury stated that a strong consideration will be given to the platform lift, adding that it makes perfect sense.
- g. The park district will let the commission know of its final decision.
- h. The commission thanked the park district for the presentation.

VI) Communications sent and received

- a. Staff member Manning stated that she met with a city employee regarding the attainable housing action plan. One of their strategic goals is to look at housing for disabled and existing programs. They will have public meetings in the fall. A request was made for the staff person to attend one of the MACPD meetings.
- b. Manning e-mailed John Schmitt, President of the Chamber. She has not heard back from him yet. She stated the website indicated he has a strong desire to reach out to groups in the community.
- c. Manning stated that the Last Fling has met all the requirements of the special events requirements.
- d. Manning stated that the 11th commission spot will be filed by Sally Johnson.

VII) Old Business

- a. Turning Point Update. Staff member Manning stated she was contacted yesterday that the planning commission was only addressing land use needs at this evenings meeting. Therefore, she and Commissioner Berg do not have to attend the meeting. The MACPD letter would be better before the Council. Our letter does not address land use. The planning commission requested we appear before them to discuss the Olmstead court case as well as state funding, neither of which is to be addressed tonight. Commission Foxen moved that we send a letter to the mayor, council, planning commission, staff and anyone else who was copied on the original letter clarifying and articulating our position. Motion seconded by Commissioner Noe. All voted in favor.
- b. Strategic plan initiative subcommittee update. Manning stated that there is a concern that our proposed survey asks for feedback on the YMCA, park district and other agencies. Manning will send a letter next month to the agencies mentioned in our survey. Commissioner Wright mentioned that the park district recent survey asked questions pertaining to the forest preserve, school districts, city, county and townships. A question was raised as to who will format the survey and make it accessible. Manning stated that Survey Monkey will format and tally the responses. The city will make the format accessible.

VIII) New Business

- a. New Members - Staff member Manning stated that new commission members Victoria Perrault and Victoria Carlson were approved by the City Council at the July meeting.

Manning stated that new commission member Sally Johnson's nomination may not go before the city council until October 2009.

- b. Commissioner Carlson stated she has lived in Naperville 11 years. She is a current member of the National Council on Disability (NOD). For several years, she attended the awareness fair sponsored by this commission. She wants to help people with disabilities.
- c. Other new business. Commissioner Wright distributed information from the Illinois Department of Human Services celebration held on July 15, 2009 for the 19th anniversary of the ADA.
- d. Announcements. The September meeting will include a wrap-up of Ribfest. The October meeting will have city planners to discuss Central Park Band Shell.

IX. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Jerue at 7:43 p.m. Second by Commissioner Foxen.

Next meeting September 2, 2009 7:00 PM