

Minutes
Advisory Commission on Disabilities
October 7, 2009 – LL Room C – 7 pm

Commission Members Present: Peter Berg, Victoria Carlson, Diane Fleischel, Kathe Foxen, Laurie Jerue, Sally Johnson, and Mary Wright
Absent: Judi Buckman, Carrie Noe and Victoria Perrault
Student Members Present: None
Staff: Marita Manning, Accessibility Coordinator
Others: Cindi Swanson; Anna Marie Kissel, Erika Kissel, Cyndi Perez (Vocational Counselor District 204), Sharon Kickel (Vocational Coordinator District 204) Denise Carlston, Al Carlston, Tom Carlston and Kathy Sisto (STEPS teacher, District 204)

- I. Call to Order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. Introduction of Commissioners and visitors
Sally Johnson, new commissioner, mother is profoundly deaf, became speech pathologist. Now Administrator in 203. Active community member.
- III. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve by Commissioner Carlson and second by Commissioner Fleischel. All approved.
- IV. Approval of September minutes
 - A motion to approve by Commissioner Jerue, second by Diane Fleischel. All voted in favor.
- V. Communications sent and received
 - A. Contacted by Mayor, Commissioner Baltusis not reappointed. Mayor sent thank you for five years of leadership. Still need one more commissioner for full board.
 - B. City of Naperville's internal employee newsletter featured article about volunteer Sara Jerue.
 - C. Last night at City Council meeting, Mayor issued proclamation of National Disability Employment Awareness month. Commissioner Berg accepted plaque. There were five speakers on disability topics.
 - D. E-mail from Katie Forystek wants to share findings with both Fair Housing Authority and ACD on same date either November 5 or 16, 2009. ACD chose November 16, 2009.
- VI. Presentation by Naperville Works with Q&A
 - a. Presentation by Tom Carlson and Erika Kissel.
 - b. Presentation by Kathy Foxen (Naperville Works) and Cindy Perez
 - c. STEPS program is Supported Training Experiences Post School.
 - If a person ages out or is no longer in school system, Naperville Works can no longer provide a job coach.
 - Naperville Works is seeking

- Feedback on presentation
- Support from city to explore employment opportunity with city, park district, library and settlement.
- Ways to sell STEPS to the city.
- Commissioner Carlson suggested that letter be sent from MACD endorsing Naperville Works to Mayor Pradel.
- Motion by Commissioner Fleischel and second by Commissioner Johnson to send a letter to the Mayor outlining the support and endorsement of Naperville Works.

VII. Old Business

- a. Strategic plan initiative subcommittee update
Target date of October 15 to December 15, 2009 for survey to be on website. Paper copies will be available upon request. Community relations will do press release. Commissioners are asked to share the press release with other list serves.
- b. Central Park Project
Chairman Berg said we have responses to questions posed. City has not finalized what design will look like. Commissioners will have opportunity to provide feedback. Discussion that the park can be challenging. Question as to when construction would begin. Response that construction to begin in 2010. Commissioner Berg requested that any issues or questions be forwarded to him.

VIII. New Business

- a. Commission by-laws
 - i. Chairman Berg stated that he reviewed the ordinance and by-laws of the commission. This commission is advisory to the Mayor and city council and city as a whole to ensure the city is in full commitment to the ADA.
 - ii. We don't know whether there was a transition plan was done.
 - iii. What type of initiatives can we do to help the city to evaluate city service programs. Staff member Manning mentioned to him that she went on walk with a citizen to examine issues in downtown areas. Discussion ensued about timetable for strategic plan and reserving room to hold public forum prior to presenting results to city council.
- b. Commission initiatives
 - i. Chairman Berg said 2010 is the 20th anniversary of the ADA. Would like to have city issue proclamation that it is fully committed to ADA.
 - ii. Discussion about forming a taskforce or subcommittee do a checklist as to who/what in City is in compliance and have task force see where we are with ADA requirements. Because this is 20th anniversary of ADA, there will be a lot of press. This is an opportunity to look at services and re-evaluate. Prior discussion had focused on ultimate

goal to win National Organization on Disability's (NOD) City of the Year.

- iii. Discussion as to whether the commission or city would do an audit. Chairman Berg stated it would not be the work of the commission. Discussion as to whether results of the survey would determine areas that need to be addressed. Additional input could come in through the public forum. Chairman Berg concluded that we would wait for the results of the survey and find a room in the city for a Saturday forum.

c. Accessibility Coordinator Report

As stated above in New Business, a citizen challenged staff member Manning to a pedestrian challenge. Accompanying them were three commissioners from the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) and someone from city hall. The BPAC shared that they were heavily focused on bikes and not pedestrians. Another goal for next year might be to have meeting with BPAC.

d. Other new business

- i. Chairman Berg stated it was nice to have so many speakers on the topic of disability at the beginning of last night's city council meeting.
- ii. Citizen Cindi Swanson and four other people with disabilities spoke at the public forum. Ms. Swanson thanked Chairman Berg for speaking before the council. Chairman Berg clarified that he was speaking as a private citizen and not in his role as Chairman.
- iii. Commissioner Wright expressed her appreciation to the Mayor and city council for the volunteer dinner held earlier this month.
- iv. Citizen Crys Humes asked Chairman Berg if he regularly meets with the Mayor and/or city council. Chairman Berg stated he met with the Mayor on one other occasion. According to the by-laws there is no requirement of regular meetings. As an advisory commission our communication is from the Mayor to the City Council or from city staff to the commission.
- v. Citizen Crys Humes asked whether there was advance notice of the proclamation. Commissioner Jerue stated the agendas are posted every Monday.

e. Announcements

Next meeting November 4, 2009 at 7:00 PM

IX. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Carlson to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Fleischel. All voted in favor. Adjournment at 8:36 p.m.