



City of Madison
Meeting Minutes - Final
COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH
DISABILITIES

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Thursday, October 27, 2005

4:30 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 260 (Madison Municipal Building)

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Mary P. Conroy, Robert P. Monahan, Michael W. T. Howe, Randy G. Black, Jeff C. Erlanger, Alice J. Fike and Michael C. O'Connor

Absent: Ald. Paul E. Skidmore, Lynn A. Peterson and Gregory B. Banks

Excused: Nancy R. Kathman

Staff Present: Angela Bennett, Disability Rights Specialist; Chris Felton, Sign Language Interpreter

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of September 22, 2005 meeting

A motion was made by Erlanger, seconded by Conroy, to Approve the Minutes. The motion passed by acclamation.

5. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES - Norman Davis

No Report

6. REPORT FROM THE COMMON COUNCIL - Alder Paul Skidmore

Note: Alder Skidmore was not in the room at the time this item was taken up by the Commission.

A motion was made by Erlanger, seconded by Fike that Item 6. be Tabled. The motion passed by acclamation.

The Alders report contained three items addressed by the Common Council (1) Approval of amended MGO 3.62. The Alder will contact the City Attorney's office for an opinion regarding when the amendments will take effect; (2) Refinancing of the Overture Center and (3) Upcoming discussion of the capital and operational budget. Alder Skidmore requested contact during the meeting or after from anyone on the CPD who had comments or issues regarding the operational budget so that he can champion those. The Commission discussed methods of accessing a draft of the budget, either by requesting an e-copy from the Alder, checking on the City Website, or calling the City Clerk's Office.

7. DISABILITY RIGHTS SPECIALIST REPORT- Angela Bennett

Staff reported the following: (1) Copies of amended MGO 3.62 were available; (2) Affirmative Action plans for contractors will include individuals with disabilities in the reporting requirements; (3) All appropriate contracts will include non-discrimination language required by MGO 3.72; (4) City contracts will be evaluated to determine if they have accessibility plans on file, prior to payment.

The Commission posed the following questions: (1) When will the changes involved in amended MGO 3.62 come into effect? The Chair stated that he would follow up on that for the Commission. (2) Will the Home Chore program funding be continuing? Staff reported that there was no new information regarding that program.

Alder Paul Skidmore was present at approximately 4:40 p.m.

Present: Ald. Paul E. Skidmore, Mary P. Conroy, Robert P. Monahan, Michael W. T. Howe, Randy G. Black, Jeff C. Erlanger, Alice J. Fike and Michael C. O'Connor

Absent: Lynn A. Peterson and Gregory B. Banks

Excused: Nancy R. Kathman

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Goals and Objectives:

December meeting will be about this topic.

B. Report on DCR Citizens Advisory Committee:

Mr. Erlanger reported the following: (1) The committee has only met once because there have been many religious holidays to schedule. Another meeting is scheduled on November 14 at 5:00 pm. Mr. Erlanger and the Chair encouraged people with disabilities to come to the meeting. (2) DCR work continues particularly in the area of reviewing Achievement History Questionnaires (AHQs) of applicants who have applied for the now closed DCR Director position. Mr. Erlanger reported that he is one of the people evaluating the AHQs, is looking at what applicants are saying about their experience with people with disabilities, and has been impressed with many of them. He reported that since he has been given 16 AHQ's to review, he assumes that there were other applicants that did not make it to the second round.

C. People First Language in Ordinances:

01853

Amending Secs. 1.08, 3.23, 3.35, 3.36, 3.38, 3.48, 3.51, 3.52, 3.59, 3.72, 8.35, 9.13, 11.06, 12.03, 22.14, 23.56, 27.05, 28.03, 28.04, 28.08, 28.11, 28.12, and 31.04 of the Madison General Ordinances to update references to handicapped and/or disabled utilizing People First language.

No public comment.

This item was referred to the January agenda. The Commission discussed that it was important to wait for the City Attorney's report and include it in the discussion to be sure that no rights of individuals with disabilities are diminished. The Commission and staff discussed that the agenda for November was full because of the agenda item about emergency management plans.

A motion was made by Monahan, seconded by Conroy, to Refer to the COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES to the January meeting. The motion passed by acclamation.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Retreat with EOC, AAC and the staff from EOC and AA:

The Commission discussed that Executive committee decided to communicate between the Chairs of the Commissions in order to determine the when the meeting would be held, how long the meeting would be and what the agenda would be for the retreat. It also discussed the general commission's ideas on the subject. This discussion included: (1) agreeing that the retreat was a good idea, that there were mutual interests and concerns, and that the CPD had planned a similar meeting in October of last year, (2) timing the retreat for a time after the organizational structure of the new DCR is known, and the new members on the commissions to be established, (3) planning for when the CPD would have time on its agenda to discuss the retreat further, (4) communicating through staff with chairs of other commissions on this issue, as the CPD has done in the past, and (5) not waiting to have the retreat because the EOC and AA share common goals already.

A motion was made by Erlanger, seconded by Skidmore, to ask staff to communicate with the other two Commissions and get back to the CPD with information about the retreat. The motion failed by the following vote:

Absent: Lynn A. Peterson and Gregory B. Banks

Excused: Nancy R. Kathman

No: Paul E. Skidmore, Mary P. Conroy, Robert P. Monahan, Michael W. T. Howe, Randy G. Black, Jeff C. Erlanger, Alice J. Fike and Michael C. O'Connor

B. Emergency Evacuation Plans:

Staff asked the CPD for specific questions for the speakers who were coming to the November CPD meeting. These questions would then be forwarded to the speakers.

C. December Special Meeting to Formulate Goals and Objectives for the CPD and Disability Rights and Services Program:

The topic for the CPD December meeting will be to formulate goals and objectives for the CPD and the Disability Rights and Services Program. The CPD discussed having this meeting be televised, in order for people with disabilities who are unable to get to the meeting be able to view it.

Mr. Greg Banks entered the meeting at approximately 5:15 pm.

Present: Ald. Paul E. Skidmore, Mary P. Conroy, Robert P. Monahan, Michael W. T. Howe, Randy G. Black, Jeff C. Erlanger, Alice J. Fike, Michael C. O'Connor and Gregory B. Banks

Absent: Lynn A. Peterson

Excused: Nancy R. Kathman

D. 2006 "Access to Jobs" Job Fair:

The CPD discussion of this item involved: (1) a discussion that the CPD made a decision in the past that the Job Fair was not an appropriate activity for a volunteer organization, (2) that the CPD was not successful at obtaining assistance from a non-profit agency, (3) this item could be discussed during the goals and objectives meeting, (4) the Job Fair would be something the city staff could consider putting on, and (5) that the CPD should find some way to stay committed to the initiative to find jobs for people with disabilities, rather than have stop/start connection.

A motion was made by Erlanger, seconded by Skidmore, to take Item 9.E. after Item 8.B. The motion passed by consent.

Present: Ald. Paul E. Skidmore, Mary P. Conroy, Robert P. Monahan, Michael W. T. Howe, Randy G. Black, Jeff C. Erlanger, Alice J. Fike and Michael C. O'Connor

Absent: Lynn A. Peterson and Gregory B. Banks

Excused: Nancy R. Kathman

E. CPD Representation on the DCR Citizens Advisory Committee:

The Commission discussed that (1) Mr. Erlanger was not officially nominated by the CPD to serve on this committee, (2) he is honored to serve on behalf of the mayor, enjoyed reading the AHQ's and is looking forward to continuing, and (3) the mayor's appointment process should have included consultation with the Commission prior to the formation of the committee.

A motion was made by Conroy, seconded by Skidmore, that the CPD approve Jeff Erlanger as its representative on the DCR Advisory Committee. The motion passed by the following vote:

Absent: Lynn A. Peterson, Gregory B. Banks

Excused: Nancy R. Kathman

Aye: Paul E. Skidmore, Mary P. Conroy, Michael W. T. Howe, Randy G. Black, Jeff C. Erlanger, Alice J. Fike, Michael C. O'Connor

Abstain: Robert P. Monahan

F. Overture Accessibility:

Staff requested (1) that this item be moved to the January agenda to fit with Ms. Soncea's schedule and (2) that the CPD submit specific questions regarding access of the Overture Center to staff to be forwarded to Ms. Soncea. The CPD discussed the following regarding accessibility of the Overture: (1) One member had attended and reported that the accommodations went smoothly, (2) other members noted problems with accessibility in the areas of (a) determining where individuals in wheelchairs were supposed to sit, with someone taking the tickets five times before the location was determined, (b) accessing push button electric door openers at the Overture: the door powered by an electric opener was locked, and there were no electric door openers on the mezzanine restrooms. The doors were very heavy and it was difficult for the people in manual wheel chairs to open them, (3) one member wanted an update on the accessibility features and any new policies and procedures in the current and next phases of development for the Overture: specifically the Capitol theater, and the museum space, (4) another member mentioned that the elevators to get up to the balcony were not opened at the same time that other ticket holders were getting in to lower levels, and that he had to wait ten minutes or so. The acoustics in parts of the Center were poor and would make sign language interpreting difficult because the music was loud and the speech was drowned out.

G. CPD Representation on the Parking Council for People with Disabilities (PCPD):

CPD executive recommended that Mary Conroy be moved from alternate to one of the four positions that are specifically held for CPD representatives. The Chair asked if anyone else on the CPD wanted to be a representative on the PCPD.

A motion was made by Erlanger, seconded by Banks, that the Commission ask the Mayor to Recommend that the Common Council move Mary Conroy from alternate to one of the positions designated for a CPD representative on the PCPD. The motion passed by acclamation.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Commission did not discuss any future agenda items.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff mentioned that Room 260 is scheduled for the Common Council Budget meetings on November 17, should the Council need a third budget meeting night. The CPD discussed changing meeting location, rescheduling the meeting and meeting earlier on November 17. The CPD decided to meet at 4:00 pm, arrange the agenda to take business first and then speakers at 4:30 pm so as to be out of the room by 5:30 pm if necessary. The Chair will check to see if TV Channel 12 can begin televising the meeting at 4:00 pm.

Mr. Erlanger announced that he had testified at a congressional hearing in Milwaukee on election reform and how it affected people with disabilities. One of the plans proposed to exempt individuals with disabilities from the requirement of a voter ID. Mr. Erlanger stated that he solicited input from other individuals and had received some from CPD members. He stated that his comment was that if the exemption for people with disabilities went forward, it should be offered to other groups that would also have difficulty obtaining an ID card, such as the poor.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm.

A motion was made by Fike, seconded by Ald. Skidmore, to Adjourn. The motion passed by acclamation.