



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Amended COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Thursday, October 30, 2008

4:30 PM

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

For further information, please view this meeting of the Commission on People with Disabilities on the Madison City Channel Website by going to: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/mcc12/cpd.html>. There you will find a link to the most recent meeting. To view previous meetings, scroll down and select the meeting you wish to view.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m., Randy Black, Vice Chair, presiding.

Present: 10 -

Paul E. Skidmore; Mary P. Conroy; Pamela Erlanger; Randy G. Black; Lisa A. Jameson; Marie I. VandeBerg; Alice J. Fike; Ken W. Pritchard; Kory S. Tabor and Gregory B. Banks

Absent: 1 -

William J. Tangney

Excused: 2 -

Robert P. Monahan and Nancy R. Kathman

William Tangney arrived at 4:55 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Skidmore moved and Fike seconded to approve the minutes. After discussion the minutes were approved with the following friendly amendment as part of the Chair's report: That Pamela Erlanger volunteered to work with Shoshana Asher on the CPD accessible housing project to make up for her absences on the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Skidmore moved and Conroy seconded to suspend the rules and take up item 09674 D on the agenda. The motion was passed unanimously.

Tangney came in during the discussion of this item.

Present: 11 -

Paul E. Skidmore; Mary P. Conroy; Pamela Erlanger; Randy G. Black; Lisa A. Jameson; Marie I. VandeBerg; Alice J. Fike; Ken W. Pritchard; Kory S. Tabor; William J. Tangney and Gregory B. Banks

Excused: 2 -

Robert P. Monahan and Nancy R. Kathman

[09674](#)

Accessible Housing Goal

D. Tax exemption for low-income housing providers: Update: Howard Mandeville, Movin' Out; Next steps for the CPD

Mandeville addressed the commission as follows:

- 1. Property tax exemptions have been part of the city's affordable housing projects, helping to keep rents low for the city's most impoverished.**
- 2. Recent city litigation and an opinion from the Department of Revenue will result in a loss of that property tax exemption for low-income housing providers in all jurisdictions across the state of Wisconsin.**
- 3. Higher rents needed to cover property taxes may result in jeopardizing the housing for the most poor, and could require that the city return construction funds to HUD.**
- 4. A narrower definition of "maintenance costs" is the cause of the loss of exemption.**
- 5. The following would remedy the problem: Amending legislation broadening and clarifying the definition of maintenance to include all of the costs involved in property management, including debt service.**
- 6. This legislation did not pass during the last legislative session, but it will be reintroduced during the next session and is likely to be passed.**

Mandeville stated that the nonprofits did not have the resources to carry on a lobbying effort and requested that the city, through its lobbyist, work on the necessary legislation to retain the property tax exemption. Mandeville agreed to provide information for Commissioners to use when contacting their legislators.

The Commissioners and Mandeville discussed the effort to increase tax revenue, the additional costs to the city if money needs to be returned to HUD, and having many poor people that cannot afford to pay the increased rent.

The Commission then returned to the regular agenda.

REPORTS

1. [09662](#) Report from the Department of Civil Rights

For information only. No action required. Larry Studesville, Interim Director, Department of Civil Rights, and Angela Bennett, Disability Rights and Services Program Coordinator: Actions taken since the last meeting. (10 minutes)

Bennett reported as follows:

- 1. CDA's Section 8 Voucher program manager reported that 77% of the Section 8 units were built before 1992, with the corresponding assumption that this housing is inaccessible;**
- 2. CDA's inspectors cannot currently assess accessibility, but CPD staff proposed that they use a simple checklist or enlist CPD members to engage in an assessment;**
- 3. Staff will report back when CDA responds.**

2. [09666](#) Report from the Chairperson of the Commission on People with Disabilities

For information only. No action required. Nancy Kathman: Actions taken since the last meeting. (3 minutes)
3. [09670](#) Report from the Executive Committee

For information only. No action required.
The chair combined items 09666 and 09670 in one report as follows: The CPD executive approved the agenda for today's meeting.
4. [09672](#) Report from the Parking Council for People with Disabilities

For information only. No action required. Mary Conroy: Actions taken since the last meeting. (3 minutes)
Conroy reported that the Parking Council has updated the accessible parking brochure and requested sources of funds to have it printed.
5. [09671](#) Report from the ADA Transit Subcommittee

For information only. No action required. William Tangney: Actions taken since the last meeting. (3 minutes)
Tangney reported that the main item was to note that Medical Assistance waiver program was approved for next year.
6. [09664](#) Report from the Common Council

For information only. No action required. Alder Skidmore: Actions taken since the last meeting. (3 minutes)
Alder Skidmore reported that beginning November 11,12, and 13 the Common Council would deliberate and adopt the 2009 budget. He asked that anyone with input contact him or their Alder prior to that time, regarding the budget or the rate increase for transit fares.
7. [12427](#) Report from the CDA Board

For information only. No action required. Alice Fike: Actions taken since the last meeting. (3 minutes)
Fike reported that the last meeting was at the Villager Mall. The meeting provided an update on plans for the Mall that includes a new library building with space for the Urban League and Planned Parenthood, as well as remodeling of the Atrium.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. [09674](#) Accessible Housing Goal

A. CPD advocacy for general accessibility housing goals through CDA and CDBG boards: Becoming a CDBG board member, getting housing accessibility on the agenda of each board

Tangney stated as follows:

1. that it seems appropriate for the CPD to have a representative at the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) board meetings and recommended Bob Monahan to represent CPD at these meetings. The commission referred this recommendation and the topic to the next meeting in Monahan's absence.

Staff added that two boards make important decisions about accessibility and visitability relative to the units they fund. She thought having individuals from CPD on the boards would encourage keeping these issues before them as they make decisions.

The commission discussed how to become members on city committees and commissions, how to find agendas and minutes of meetings and how to speak during the public comment section of the agenda, as well as how to get on the agenda.

B. Input into RFP for Phase II of Allied Drive: Strategies

The Commission discussed this item as follows: It wanted visitability to be included in the design of the houses, through the RFP process.

Tangney moved and Skidmore seconded that a letter be sent to CDA asking that the CPD be given the opportunity for input on the RFP for the new Allied Drive single family units and asking that accessibility and visitability be included in the planning for these units. The letter should include specific ideas for visitability.

Discussion:

The commissioners discussed this motion as follows: strategies for using the letter with the CDA Commission, the need for accessible, affordable housing, including apartments with roll-in showers, and assisting staff in writing the letter.

There was no vote on this motion.

Skidmore moved and Fike seconded that Bennett draft a letter to CDA and that Skidmore, Tabor, and Tangney approve it. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

Banks moved and Conroy seconded to take up Item 10. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

10. [12033](#)

Executive Committee Membership, Function and Relationship to the Full Commission

Tangney moved and Conroy seconded to refer Item 10 to the November CPD meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

Commissioner Banks and Jameson left at this time.

Present: 9 -

Paul E. Skidmore; Mary P. Conroy; Pamela Erlanger; Randy G. Black; Marie I. VandeBerg; Alice J. Fike; Ken W. Pritchard; Kory S. Tabor and William J. Tangney

Excused: 4 -

Robert P. Monahan; Nancy R. Kathman; Lisa A. Jameson and Gregory B. Banks

C. Definition of visitability: Report on the activities of the Housing For All Advisory Committee (HFAAC); CPD representation on HFAAC Committee

Bennett reported as follows:

- 1) Steve Levine is on the Building Code Council;
- 2) One of the things that is being worked on at the State level is a definition of visitability
- 3) The HFAAC will develop a standard, get public input, take it to the Code Council, and through it, ask the Department to engage in rule making to establish a certification for single family houses and duplexes (housing currently not subject to accessibility standards)
- 4) Units that meet the standards may then be certified as visitable
- 5) The standard might also become mandatory.

Bennett agreed to receive any comments Commissioners had and pass them on to Levine.

Skidmore moved and Erlanger seconded to designate Tangney to represent the Commission at meetings of the HFAAC and to report back on their work. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

9. [12313](#)

Accessible Housing Survey

Shoshanna Asher: Progress and discussion

Bennett apologized for Asher who was ill and unable to attend. Bennett reported as follows: Asher

- 1) has collected a great deal of data on accessible apartments
- 2) states that the next step is to get the data into a database and then to make calls to the housing providers.
- 3) and Erlanger will discuss how to organize the data.

Tabor recommended having a list of detailed questions to ask apartment landlords in order to determine the level of accessibility. Bennett stated that she expects that Shoshana will come to the Commission with her list of questions for input before contacting property owners.

NEW BUSINESS

11. [12312](#)

2009 CPD Meeting Dates and Times

Bennett reported that Madison City Channel has a filming obligation at 7:00 p.m. on the same evening as CPD meetings, and that the meeting will have to stop by 6:30 to allow them time to set up for this. Some CPD members have asked to move the meeting to 5:00 p.m. so that they do not have to leave work early to get to the meeting.

Skidmore moved and Tabor seconded to refer this item to the next meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

Commissioner Tabor left at this time.

Present: 8 -

Paul E. Skidmore; Mary P. Conroy; Pamela Erlanger; Randy G. Black;
Marie I. VandeBerg; Alice J. Fike; Ken W. Pritchard and William J.
Tangney

Excused: 5 -

Robert P. Monahan; Nancy R. Kathman; Lisa A. Jameson; Kory S. Tabor
and Gregory B. Banks

12. [10782](#) Future Agenda Items

Conway stated that the Ped Bike Commission had discussed creating and implementing a comprehensive multi-modal transportation and parking design for the City of Madison, with the lead agency being the Long Range Transportation Committee. Skidmore will be sure it gets referred to this Commission to be sure the Commission has appropriate input.

Black stated that he would like to revisit the issue of problems with using the Automark for early voting and the attitude of city clerk staff.

13. [10783](#) Announcement of Community Events

For information only; no action required.

Tangney announced that individuals who normally take mainline buses but cannot get to the stop because of snow should call and ask for pick-up by Metro Plus.

ADJOURNMENT

Conroy moved and Tangney seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed by voice vote/other.