



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

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

Thursday, February 23, 2006

4:30 PM

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair at 4:35 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Lynn A. Peterson

Excused: Nancy R. Kathman and Alice J. Fike

Staff Present: Angela Bennett, Disability Rights Specialist

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of January 26, 2006

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

5. REPORT FROM THE DCR DIRECTOR - Lucía Nuñez

Developments regarding the new DCR.

The Director discussed the following transition plans for a smooth transition during the next year:

(1) the tasks of creating a new department such as team building and bringing together two separate staffs, and developing a new vision and mission, (2) Guiding principles of (a) building on the historical foundation the divisions already have (b) maintaining services and programs the divisions already provide to the community in an efficient and effective manner, (3) Co-location of the departments on the 5th floor of the CCB with plans to assure accessibility, (4) Meeting with staff to learn what they do in their jobs and their style, in order to be able to work together, (5) Developing a community outreach plan for herself and asking the CPD for suggestions of the community organizations or individuals for her to contact, (6) Developing benchmarks and standards the department currently has and may want to measure, (7) Spending time learning about budget and with Human Resources, learning about position descriptions, and the hiring process, (8) Reading ordinances, and Mayoral Administrative Procedures Memoranda, (9) Participated in the APM 3-5 training on Harassment, and (10) Looking forward to working with the CPD, welcomes feedback and suggestions on (a) how best to work with the CPD and (b) the relationship between the Director and the CPD.

Commissioners and the Director discussed the following: (1) Working with people reporting directly to the Director, and the staff to develop the DCR organizational structure and the timeline for implementation. The Director plans to have organizational division and unit (for example: administrative unit) staff meetings to plan the organizational structure of the DCR. (2) Understanding the role of the EOC and AA in the enforcement of the rights of individuals with disabilities.

6. REPORT FROM THE COMMON COUNCIL - Alder Skidmore

Discussions and actions taken during the December, January and February meetings.

Alder Skidmore apologized for his absence and reported that the City Council has not taken up many substantive items in the last three months. The big issues that are coming up are: paid sick leave ordinance, and inclusionary zoning.

7. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - Alice Fike, Vice Chair

Discussions and actions taken during the February meeting.

The Chair reported in Ms. Fike's place (due to her absence) that that the Committee discussed: (1) the full Commission would act on People First Language Ordinance if the drafts were ready with the EOC language inserted. (2) Chapter 39 was tabled because there was no current draft and (3) the agenda for this meeting.

8. REPORT FROM THE DCR ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Jeff Erlanger

Discussions and actions taken February by the Committee.

Mr. Erlanger deferred to the Director's report.

**9. REPORT FROM THE PARKING COUNCIL FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES -
Mary Conroy**

Discussions and actions taken during the February meeting.

Ms. Conroy reported that: (1) Mr. Carlson has resigned and Mr. Durocher is new chair until April when the Council will choose a new chair, (2) there is no slot for aldermanic representation on the Council, but Mr. Durocher will continue to request that an alder request to be appointed to the Council. (3) There is an Ordinance that requires the city to report on the number of parking stalls with a three-hour meter in the City. The City is in compliance with this ordinance, reporting that of the 118 stalls, 31/26% are designated as 3-hour metered parking stalls in the City for people with disabilities, (4) In researching a possible resolution to be introduced by Alder Golden about the number of accessible parking stalls in the City, the Council found, and Ms. Conroy passed out to the Commission, two documents: (a) Federal guidelines for accessible on-street parking and (b) information about Philadelphia's very specific guidelines for on-street parking.

The Commissioners discussed the following: (1) suggested that an item regarding aldermanic representation on the parking council occur on the March agenda for the full CPD, (2) stated that the Council could develop a resolution that Skidmore could sponsor, along with Golden regarding aldermanic representation and (3) regarding the People First Language ordinance, the Parking Council had not considered making a suggestion, for a different name for the handicapped parking stalls-such as "parking for people with disabilities."

10. REPORT FROM THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION - Michael Howe

Discussions and actions taken during the February meeting.

The Chair reported that: (1) the EOC took final action on the People First Ordinance and staff will present those revisions in a form more easily understood than what the Chair passed out at the Executive meeting; (2) the EOC elected Bert Zipperer as the new president.

11. REPORT FROM THE ADA TRANSIT SUBCOMMITTEE - Jeff Erlanger

Discussions and actions taken during the February meeting.

Mr. Erlanger reported that the meeting was cancelled due to the snow.

12. REPORT FROM THE DISABILITY RIGHTS SPECIALIST

a. Overture installation of automatic door openers.

Staff reported that the Overture sent a letter stating that the Center will install automatic door openers in all the family assist restrooms.

b. Amendment of minutes of September 22, 2005, to reflect Ms. Kaysen's request in her comment submitted to the Commission on January 26, 2006.

A motion was made by Black, seconded by Skidmore and Banks to Amend the Minutes of September 22, 2005, to strike the sentence "She stated that Ms. Hanna shared these concerns." The motion passed by acclamation.

13. OLD BUSINESS

a. People First Language in Ordinances:

Staff Report: Angela Bennett: EOC comment, OCA suggestion for Drafter's Note.

01853

SUBSTITUTE - 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.

Staff reported: (1) The draft sent to the Commission contained changes recommended by the EOC and the Drafter's note from the Staff report of Jan. 23, 2006 and (2) the items left for the Commission's attention are: (a) the policy statement referred to in the staff report regarding signs and labels used by the City of Madison and (b) language inconsistencies in item #32 and #34 regarding "individuals with a serious mental illness" versus a person with an emotional disability.*

The Commission discussed adding the policy statement regarding signs and labels in the Drafter's note, making language consistent regarding "serious mental illness" versus "persons with emotional disabilities" and requesting that the City Attorney's office to do a search for ordinance use of the word "mobility devices" instead of "wheelchairs." The commission also discussed the use of "impairment related mobility device" instead of wheelchairs.

*(*Staff report of Jan 23 stated the following: "The Ordinance should contain the*

additional policy statement that signs and labels used by the City of Madison should reflect the intent of this ordinance, unless to change the sign or label would violate state or Federal law or ADAAG Guidelines. (For example: signs indicating "Handicapped Loading Zones" should be changed to "Loading zones for persons with disabilities. Discounted fares with labels like "handicapped" or "disabled" should be changed to "persons with disabilities.")

A motion was made by Monahan, seconded by Erlanger, to Refer For Attorney Review to the Attorney's Office/Approval Group to do three things: (1) include the language from the Staff report of Jan. 23*, regarding changing signs and labels in the Drafter's analysis as a policy statement, (2) make consistent in all cases, but particularly items #32 and #34, replacing the words "persons with a serious mental illness" with the words "individuals with emotional disabilities" and (3) look for instances in the ordinances for the word "wheelchair(s)" and in a draft ordinance (not a substitute) replace the word "wheelchair" with "impairment related mobility device(s)" so the CPD can see what that would look like. The motion passed by acclamation.

b. Proposed Ordinance for DCR: Chair, Michael Howe
Staff Summary Report: Angela Bennett

02556

SUBSTITUTE - Adopting and confirming amendments to the Madison General Ordinances as set forth in attached Exhibit X pursuant to Sec. 66.0103, Wis. Stats.

The Chair reported that there was no revised draft ordinance referred to the Commission.

A motion was made by Conroy, seconded by Erlanger to Refer this Item to next month's agenda. The motion passed by acclamation.

14. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Accessibility of City Polling Places - City of Madison Clerk, S. Christensen; Wisconsin Coalition for Advocacy [named changed on Monday to Disability Rights of Wisconsin (DRW)], Alicia Sidman presenting:

The City Clerk, Ms. Christensen did not attend.

Ms. Sidman reported the following to the Commission:

DRW receives federal funding from the Help America Vote Act to assure that people with disabilities have equal participation in the electoral process. Ms. Sidman is a voting rights advocate, who does other things at DRW besides assess accessibility of polling places, such as civil rights issues, and housing access issues.

DRW used part of the federal funding to take the same survey that the elections board used, but asked volunteers with disabilities to survey the polling places throughout the state, to give a different viewpoint about accessibility of polling places, and to give the cities additional information about polling places. The Madison survey covered 37 polling places, 70% had accessibility problems. Most of the problems were low cost, easily fixed problems (such as mats being loose, door heavy, no automatic openers, instructions not displayed in large print, signage for parking, defining the inside and outside accessible routes was not available, accessible routes with doors locked and adequate parking was not available or needed restriping, added parking for election day, nearer to the door, handrails added to the ramp.) Ms. Sidman submitted a report on the

data collected with the following comments about the data: (1) untrained volunteers filled out the surveys, so the data may not be accurate (2) the data gives the city a guide of something more to look at when assessing accessibility of polling places, (3) she met with the City clerk and CPD staff to review the report, and some of the accessibility problems may have already been corrected, or are on their way to being corrected and (4) the city clerk stated that she would have her poll workers take another look at the sites mentioned in the DRW survey as having accessibility problems that the City did not previously observe and then get back with Ms. Sidman regarding her findings. (5) Volunteers used the survey in the Appendix attached to her report. The State Elections Board initially used this survey, but later modified it. 43% of the polling places had more challenging problems, like no available accessible parking, no ramps, and improperly cut curb cuts. In some cases the City of Madison may move the polling site.

DRW plans to do the survey again, to give feedback to the City regarding the continued existence of accessibility problems. Commission members asked for the specific location of some of the problematic polling places, and whether the survey documented the lack of pedestrian access to the polling place. Ms. Sidman stated that she did not receive a specific complaint regarding lack of pedestrian access at polling places. She did have a number to call regarding access barriers (1-800-928-8778, TTY 1-888-758-6049, Madison #267-0214 disabilityrights.wi.org), but had not received any calls from Madison. Commission members asked whether DRW had informed the appropriate city departments regarding the accessibility problems, specifically mentioning the City Parking Utility, Mr. Bill Knobloch, or the City Engineering regarding curb cuts and sidewalks, and Ms. Sidman stated that she would work with staff to present the information to City Departments. A commission member observed, and Ms. Sidman agreed, that the data may not be a fair or accurate representation of access barriers because two different surveyors may catch different barriers, and not all sites had more than one volunteer survey.

Mr. Erlanger left the meeting at 5:50.

A Commission member asked about representation from the State Elections Board and staff responded that it was her understanding that State Elections Board representative would be coming in April when the accessible voting machine was available. Staff reported that the Automark machine leaves a paper trail and is reportedly of high quality.

Present: Ald. Paul E. Skidmore, Mary P. Conroy, Robert P. Monahan, Michael W. T. Howe, Randy G. Black, Malika S. Monger, Michael C. O'Connor and Gregory B. Banks

Absent: Lynn A. Peterson

Excused: Nancy R. Kathman, Jeff C. Erlanger and Alice J. Fike

15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no items for a future agenda.

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:05.

A motion was made by Conroy, seconded by Black, to Adjourn. The motion passed by acclamation.