



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

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

Thursday, January 26, 2006

4:30 PM

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Mary P. Conroy, Robert P. Monahan, Michael W. T. Howe, Randy G. Black, Jeff C. Erlanger, Alice J. Fike and Gregory B. Banks

Absent: Lynn A. Peterson and Michael C. O'Connor

Excused: Ald. Paul E. Skidmore and Nancy R. Kathman

Staff Present: Angela Bennett, Disability Rights Specialist

Mr. O'Connor entered the meeting at 4:45 PM, during the discussion of item 4 on the agenda.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

J. Matzner requested, through written and verbal comment, that the Commission address the issue of the City providing count down signals and extended time, especially at peak times when classes are changing, at all intersections that cross University Avenue from and to the UW campus. These intersections start from Lake Street and go to Randall Avenue. The Commission referred her to David Dryer, Department of Transportation, and to the Pedestrian, Bike and Motor Vehicle Commission. The Chair directed staff send a copy of the minutes to that commission. One Commissioner recommended that, if the Department of Transportation modifies the lights, they be modified to address the needs of individuals with other disabilities than mobility, such as visual impairment.

A copy of Ms. Matzner's written comment is available from staff.

4. AA DEPARTMENT AND MAYOR'S OFFICE - Norman Davis, Interim AA Director, Enis Ragland, Mayor's Office

Highlights of proposed staff revisions to the DCR Ordinance:

Mr. Davis reported the following:

ACA Allen is revising the proposed ordinance # 02556, which creates Chapter 39 incorporating five existing ordinances (MGO 3.28, 3.58, 3.60, 3.62, 3.72), with no substantive changes to those ordinances. The CPD will have copies of the revised proposed ordinance upon completion of the revisions. The revised ordinance will show that: (1) One section describes the responsibilities of the Director of the DCR; revisions in the subsequent sections reflect those responsibilities; (2) the revisions update the language to fit actual practice; (3) the added changes are underlined, with language stricken that is changed; and (4) all commissions are consistent in not having alternates.

The Commission requested that staff send paper copies of the revised ordinance to Commission members, with the exception of Erlanger and Black, who prefer electronic copies, in time to review it before the meeting that takes it up.

Present: 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: Ald. Paul E. Skidmore and Nancy R. Kathman

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of November 17, 2005 meeting, January 9, 2006 Special Meeting

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

6. REPORT FROM THE COMMON COUNCIL - Alder Skidmore

Discussions and actions taken during the December and January meetings.

Alder Skidmore was out of town, so the item was referred to the next meeting.

7. REPORT FROM THE DISABILITY RIGHTS SPECIALIST - Angela Bennett

a. Response from Dept. of Transportation (DT) re: Midvale/University crossing: Staff reported that the response, and further staff discussion with the DT, contained: (1) countdown signals may be added at the intersection; (2) A committee is addressing the addition of audible signals in the City with the possibility of adding those signals at this intersection; and (3) The Department found that a pedestrian overpass was not feasible in that area, after a thorough study was done, previous to this citizen complaint.

b. Monitoring of Community Based Organizations (CBOs): Staff reported that she had been going over the files of the CBO's and finding that the work previously done by Mr. Schaefer very helpful in the current task.

c. Revision of the AA plans for City Contractors: Staff reported that the department had revised the AA plans for City Contractors to include information about employment of individuals with disabilities.

8. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT - Chair, Michael Howe

Discussions and actions taken during the January meeting.

The Chair reported that the Committee discussed:

(1) the People First Language Ordinance in the following areas: (a) speakers being present at the full Commission meeting to address the proposed ordinance, (b) the commission having time to address the issue, and the members needing copies of the most current proposed ordinance for the discussion;

(2) the new DCR Ordinance being a summary of five existing ordinances, and that it would be prepared so that the members could see the changes made to the ordinance;

(3) a funding request dispute from MSCR regarding canopies over the pontoon boat piers at Tinney Park, with a request from the CPD that the Park's department reconsider their decision not to fund the canopies; and

(4) accessibility of polling places as a CPD full Commission February agenda item.

9. DCR ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT - Jeff Erlanger

Discussions and actions taken during the January meeting.

Erlanger reported the following:

(1) The DCR Advisory Committee met Jan 25;

(2) Ms. Nuñez attended and shared the city architect's plans for moving EOC and AA offices into the 5th floor of the City/County building (the County district attorney's previous office.) Ragland stated, to the CPD, that the new space would be at least as accessible as the current space in the MMB, with the conference room being accessible to several wheelchairs. One member stated that it was difficult to provide comments regarding the new space if the Commission had not seen the plans for that space. The CPD members discussed having the accessibility of the current space on the agenda in February. Ragland requested that the CPD not take up the issue pre-maturely but wait until more detailed plans have been developed and the City Architect can present the plans to the CPD, for the CPD to have input. Ragland stated that DCR concerns could be brought to the DCR Committee, to the Director, or directly to him;

(3) The Committee also discussed the new proposed ordinance, Chapter 39. For the next meeting the Committee will discuss the new Director's vision, the Committee's concerns, and where they would like the Director to focus her attention. If CPD members have issues that they want brought to the new DCR Director through the Committee, they can e-mail Erlanger; and (4) The next meeting will be March 20, 5:15 for hour and half. Members can also attend the meeting and bring up issues themselves then.

10. PARKING COUNCIL FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES - Mary Conroy

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

Conroy reported the following and is willing to share further information:

(1) That there are routine agenda items each time the council meets. The Parking Enforcement Officer made an end of the year report regarding the number of citations for fraudulent use of handicapped parking stickers. The summary showed about the same amount of fraudulent use as last year.

(2) The council has been concerned about the number of handicapped parking places, and the loss of those spaces to construction, events, or city action (such as removal of spaces around the square.) The Council has (a) directed staff to provide the council with the number of handicapped parking spaces, (b) requested a resolution developed by developed by Alder Golden, with the assistance of Council members for the replacement of parking when it is lost. The Chair stated the need for education that spaces with more than 30 minutes of maximum time are also available for people with handicapped tags.

(3) The council does not have Aldermanic representation and is seeking that. One barrier may be that the Council meets on the same night as the Common Council, but earlier. Erlanger stated that he will work with Conroy to get an Alder on this committee.

11. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION - Chair, Michael Howe

Discussions and actions taken during the January meeting.

The Chair reported that the Commission recommended adoption of the People First Ordinance with minor changes, knowing that it would go to the CPD for further action.

12. ADA TRANSIT SUBCOMMITTEE - Jeff Erlanger

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

Erlanger reported that Madison Metro will (1) get additional funding from Medicaid Common Carrier funds, but that is only funding for medical trips. In order to gather information about how many riders are taking medical trips, Metro will ask paratransit riders in February to voluntarily respond to why they are using paratransit. In the past, Paratransit had not asked the question, allowing riders to keep their reason for using the service confidential, and (2) survey those on the pilot program of riders using only one carrier.

13. OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by O'Connor, seconded by Monahan to Table This Item until later in the meeting and take up item 13(b). The motion passed by acclamation.

The Commission took up this item after item 13(b).

a. Overture Center Accessibility - Rae Soncea, Accessibility Coordinator, Mike Huffman, architect, and Jacque Goetz, Director of Patron Services.

The presenters and the Commission reviewed the packet of information provided by Soncea, in large print and brail, as well as regular format documents, regarding accommodations and the process of requesting accommodations at the Overture.

Overture staff addressed questions posed to them by the Commission as follows: (1) Information, also available on the website, regarding accessibility goes out with every ticket. There is an accommodation request form and follow-up form that is available on line, at the ticket office at the information office, and from Ms. Soncea; (2) Arrangements for possible seating that is in the location that is most suitable can be done by calling the seating accommodations number at (608) 258-4144 (voice) and (608) 258-4967 (TTY). The Overture has a process for checking mobility devices for storing near the patron's seat during performances; (3) The Overture Center trained 600 volunteer ushers that work 2 shows per month. In response to a Commission member concern regarding access the elevators, the staff reported that the lead usher training packet, "A" handout, #2 addresses the process for allowing individuals in wheelchairs preferential access to the elevator. Commission members discussed how to give patrons information about elevator access policies, so that they can request the service themselves.

The Commission made the following comment on the material: Accommodation was not mentioned on the brochure, and would be easier for patrons if the language is there. TTY, not TDD should be used.

Overture staff stated that (1) the new policies for usher training came as a result of feedback from patrons; (2) the Overture development process valued CPD input during

Phase II of the development and that Overture implemented CPD recommendations in most cases; (3) 4 openings were scheduled: Capitol Theater, Crossroads, Play House, and the Museum of Contemporary Art; (4) Overture staff have implemented sign-language interpreted performances, distributed an advertisement for those performances to the Commission, and stated that they have made presentations to two deaf community organizations regarding the availability of those performances.

The Commission members requested a tour of the facility prior to opening, and requested staff to co-ordinate that tour.

In response to a question regarding the lack of automatic assist door openers on the family assist restrooms, Overture Center staff responded that accessible restrooms had already been installed, in some cases with low resist door openers, for the entire Phase I and II complex and the operator would now have to request modifications to those door installations. The priority has been on following the construction schedule, and not on making modifications to restroom door openings, except as requested by the operator.

b. # 01853 People First Language in Ordinances: Jodi Hanna, Wisconsin Coalition for Advocacy; Jesse Kaysen, Citizen; Staff Summary Report: Angela Bennett

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.

Kaysen stated the following: (1) she submits updated comments to her September 22 address to the Commission and supports staff summary as a synthesis and defers to the lawyers regarding the drafter's note/cover sheet. (2) she would submit other policy changes to the Commission next month.

The Commission and the presenters discussed the use of People First language being a correct labeling of individuals with a disability as follows: The language is developing and could change in the future; labels such as "Cripple Power" and PAB (People All Buggered Up) as positive descriptions; "Crip Power" should be used only as a self-imposed label, for self empowerment.

Staff reported that OCA supports the preamble appearing in the legislation as a drafter's note.

Hanna, from WCA, stated that the ordinance needed : (1) documentation of the purpose of the changes, and that she would support a drafter's note, (2) to replace the definition "emotionally handicapped" that was changed in one place but not another, and (3) the City Attorney's office made changes already previously suggested by Ms. Kaysen in her first comment.

Staff summary report recommended (1) a preamble (2) changing "wheelchairs" to "mobility devices" (3) that the City reflect in its signs and labels, not regulated by federal and state law, People First language.

Staff also reported that the EOC comment had not yet been formally forwarded to the CPD.

A motion was made by Monahan, seconded by Conroy, to Refer For Attorney Review to the Attorney's Office/Approval Group to come up with a drafter's note that would reflect what is contained as a suggested preamble to the People First ordinance in the January 23rd staff report so that the Commission could see what it looks like in official form in a subsequent substitute ordinance. The motion passed by acclamation.

A motion was made by Conroy, seconded by Erlanger, to Take A Recess for 4.5 minutes (until 5:46 PM) The motion passed by acclamation.

The Commission then took up Item 13.a.

c. Rescheduling Goals and Objectives Meeting

The Commission decided to defer the Goals and Objectives meeting until after the CPD gets a better idea of the organizational structure of the new DCR, and the new DCR ordinance is developed. The projected time for this meeting was in April or May.

14. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

[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.

Proposed Ordinance for DCR: Chair, Michael Howe

The Chair reported that there is no current draft of the ordinance available for CPD Comment. The item was then referred to next month's agenda.

15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Chair reported that accessibility of polls and the electoral process in Madison was on the agenda for February.

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Banks has been appointed to the AAC. The Chair reported that he is the CPD representative on the EOC, and the EOC representative on the CPD.

17. ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 6:15, the meeting adjourned.

A motion was made by Monahan, seconded by Erlanger, to Adjourn. The motion passed by acclamation.