



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

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

Thursday, March 22, 2007

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 4:40 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Paul E. Skidmore

Excused: Ken W. Pritchard and Linda M. Russell

Staff: A. Bennett, L. Nuñez

Sign Language Interpreter: C. Felton

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Virginia Black discussed the topic of snow removal. City's approach to snow removal, leaves packed snow pushed into driveways, bus stops and curb cuts that is too heavy for most snow blowers to remove. The presenter stated generally that: The City's approach to snow plowing impairs the quality of life for those with disabilities, and physically injures others. A copy of her comments is available from staff upon request.

A motion was made by Erlanger, seconded by Fike, to receive the document of the presenter's comments for distribution to the commissioners. The Commission voted by voice and raising of hands. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Conroy, seconded by Fike, to put the item on the agenda for April. The Chair asked staff to request department staff responsible for snow removal to address the Commission, as well as inviting the presenter to return when it is on the CPD agenda. After a discussion regarding this motion, the Commission voted by voice and raising of hands. The motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of February 22, 2007

A motion was made by Erlanger, seconded by Conroy, to Approve the Minutes. The Commission voted by voice and raising of hands. The motion passed by acclamation.

5. REPORT FROM THE DCR - Lucía Nuñez, Director, DCR; Angela Bennett, DR&SPC:

Actions taken during the months of February and March (10 Minutes); Mayor's accessible housing conference report: Nuñez; Polling place accessibility report: Bennett

Brad Clark, Manager of City Channel 12, announced the following (1) that a bill, AB 207, called the Video Competition Act had been introduced in the State legislature. (2) the bill would eliminate state funding for public television, and in its present form, would either close the City Channel, or force the city to fund City Channel itself, or raise property taxes, to cover the shortfall from loss of revenues. (3) there is a public hearing on the bill, Tues, March 27 at 10:00 AM, and (4) he asked that those interested attend the hearing, or contact their legislator for comments. For more information: contact 266-6501 Madison City Channel; www.ncc12.tv <<http://www.ncc12.tv>> and go to the section that states Madison City Channel Needs Your Help. 266-6573 TTY(Textnet: 866-704-2340)

The Director announced that (1) on Monday April 23, 2007 the Mayor is sponsoring a Building Accessible Communities Conference, with two tracks (multiple family housing and single family) at Monona Terrace that is free if persons register before April 16. After April 16, the cost is \$25. (2) The brochure will go out in a variety of formats. (3) The public was invited to call the DCR, DR&SP and the Mayor's office for more information, (4) on April 24 the DCR will be co-locating to the new offices in city/county building, on the 5th floor, and (5) clarified that the office location of the DR&SP was chosen because it was the largest office, with most space for people with wheelchairs, and (3) there is additional accessible office space in the intake room and conference room, with the hallways and the front counter being accessible and automatic door openers available, (4) the staff had received training on fair housing from the Fair Housing Council, (5) she gave a demonstration of Deaflink Technology for the Department heads, (6) there had been an audible signal meeting with TE, mayor's office staff, Mr. Erlanger and Alder Skidmore, and (7) city employees are strictly prohibited from being involved in political activities, so would only be taking minutes during the discussion of item 12 C on the agenda.

DR&SP staff reported that: she was involved in (1) training and polling place accessibility monitoring and reported good co-operation from the clerk in these efforts, and the usefulness of being out in the community working with the poll workers on accessibility issues, and (2) assisting in planning for emergency/disaster management efforts for those with disabilities at the city and county level. This planning involves emergency sheltering for those with medical needs, and a citizen registry. A Commissioner commented that the absentee voting place did not have an Automark machine, and thought there should be one available.

The Commission then took a five minute break at 5:30 for the sign language interpreter.

6. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - Alice Fike

*Actions taken during the February and March meetings (3 Minutes)
For information only, no action required.*

Fike reported the following: (1) In February the Committee talked about Deaflink and the 3 month contract, that Deaflink is good for use in emergencies, for CPD meetings, and for Deaf Town Hall meeting; (2) that the Deaf Town Hall meeting was a project for the DCR, (3) that the Committee hopes to have a person from the CPD participating to tell the Deaf community about what the CPD does and what it is. (4) that the Committee discussed (a) the marriage amendment and the incidence of domestic abuse in the disability community, (b) the wheelchair ramp/landscaping substitute ordinance, (c) 3.62 amendments, and (d) goals and objectives.

7. REPORT FROM THE Parking Council for People with Disabilities - Mary Conroy

*Actions taken during the February and March meetings (3 Minutes)
For information only, no action required.*

Conroy reported that the Council discussed goals, priorities and producing an informational brochure. Because Conroy did not attend in March, Erlanger reported that the Council addressed on membership and discussed vacancies on the Parking Council, and goals and objectives. Another Commission member stated that anyone from the CPD could attend and fill two more positions because there are four slots allocated to CPD members or other citizens, and only two of them are filled.

8. REPORT FROM THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION -Michael Howe

*Actions taken during the February and March meetings (3 Minutes)
For information only, no action required.*

Howe stated that the Commission did nothing in the last month that was disability related.

9. REPORT FROM THE ADA TRANSIT SUBCOMMITTEE - Jeff Erlanger

*Actions taken during the February and March meetings (3 Minutes)
For information only, no action required.*

Erlanger stated that the subcommittee : (1) referred a proposal to Transit and Parking Commission that Madison Metro create a 31 day pass that is 50% discounted for seniors and those with disabilities (\$23), (2) discussed (a) pedestrian safety issues as they relate to busses, and (b) audible signals.

10. REPORT FROM THE COMMON COUNCIL - Alder Skidmore

*Actions taken during the February and March meetings (3 Minutes)
For information only, no action required.*

A motion was made by Black, seconded by Monahan/Erlanger, to table this item. The Commission voted by voice and raising of hands. The motion passed unanimously.

Kathman left the meeting at approximately 5:50.

11. OLD BUSINESS:

MGO 3.62 amendment to include an educational component

A motion was made by Monahan, seconded by Erlanger, that the Commission take this item and item 12 B together. The Commission voted by voice and raising of hands. The motion passed unanimously.

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: Paul E. Skidmore

Excused: Nancy R. Kathman, Ken W. Pritchard and Linda M. Russell

The Chair read the text of the proposed amendment to add an educational component to the ordinance, an item 4(f), as follows: "The commission shall disseminate information, provide training programs and by other appropriate means, educate the

public regarding issues of concern or benefit to people with disabilities in the City of Madison.” He then stated that the Alder would take the request to the City Attorney’s office for drafting, then it would go to the DCR director for comment regarding staffing issues and then on to the Common Council.

A motion was made by Monahan, seconded by Black, to request Alder to pursue an amendment to 3.62 to add a section as described by the chair as item 4(f), an educational component, to take it to the City Attorney for drafting and then to the Common Council. The Commission then discussed whether the amendment should also include, because of the intent of educating “to receive information as well as disseminate information.” The Committee took no action on this discussion. The Commission voted by voice and raising of hands. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commission then took up item 12 B

12. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

A. Substitute Ordinance for wheelchair ramp landscaping: #03429

SUBSTITUTE - Amending Sections 28.04(6)(e)1.i. and 28.11(3)(g)3. of the Madison General Ordinances to add skirting and landscaping requirements for wheelchair ramp and off street parking spaces as permitted obstructions.

The Commission discussed the following regarding this ordinance:

(1) that the requirement for landscaping is an unfair tax on people with disabilities, by requiring landscaping and skirting, (2) that it did agree that ramps should be permitted, and that off-street parking be permitted, and (3) that the whole sentence regarding ramps having skirting and landscaping be stricken from the proposed ordinance.

A motion was made by Monahan, seconded by Erlanger, to recommend to the Plan Commission that it approve the sections allowing (1) ramps to be built without proof of disability and (2) front yard parking, and that it strike the whole sentence requiring ramps to have skirting and landscaping from the proposed ordinance. The Commission voted by voice and raising of hands. The motion passed unanimously.

B. MGO 3.62 amendment to modify membership requirements

The Chair discussed the following proposed change in the wording of the membership section of the ordinance: change the word “shall” to “may” in order to allow an option to have representation from the AAC, rather than a mandate. Other members discussed changing both “shalls” in the ordinance to “mays” to allow the option for the EOC representation also.

A motion was made by Black, seconded by Erlanger, to ask our Alder to have the City Attorney draft and then take to the Common Council to amend the MGO 3.62(2) to change the words shall to the word “may” in that section regarding membership in the CPD from the AAC and the EOC. The Commission voted by voice and raising of hands. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Formulating questions for mayoral candidates, to be submitted/recommended to League of Women Voters (LWV)

The Commissioners discussed whether there was still time to get this item to the LWV.

A motion was made by Erlanger to table this item indefinitely. There was no second.

Erlanger left the meeting at 6:23.

The meeting lost quorum at that time, and ended.

The following items were left on the agenda when the meeting lost quorum:

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS of Community Events:

15. ADJOURNMENT