The meeting was held on March 12, 2013, at 4:05 p.m., at City Hall Building, 419 Fulton St, Room 404, Committee Member Joy Kneebone, Chair, presiding.

ROLL CALL
Roll call showed the following committee members present: Joy Kneebone, Roger Sparks, Teri Miller and Greg Speck – 4. Absent: Mike Van Cleve and John Williams – 2. Also present was Staff Liaison David Watkins, Equal Opportunity Manager.

MINUTES
Committee Member Teri Miller motioned to approve the January meeting minutes; seconded by Committee Member Greg Speck.

Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote

COMMUNITY INPUT
Richard Stokes, citizen, mentioned he was invited by Committee Member Roger Sparks. Peg Pendal also attended the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Publicity Committee
No Report

Events Committee
No Report

NEW BUSINESS
2013 Work Plan Goals
The members began discussion by reviewing ideas for short-term, mid-term and long-term goals they previously developed.
Committee Member Teri Miller reported on the brochures placed at all of the library branches. She mentioned at the North Branch some had been picked up.

Committee Member Roger Sparks asked for 50 copies of the brochure on community services for the disabled. Committee Member Greg Speck requested 30 copies of the brochure on the MACD and community services.

The members discussed the focus of the following goal.

“Participating in one on one accessibility “point of view” experiences to partner with local business and or city leaders to conduct training for businesses or city departments”

Staff Liaison David Watkins told the members based on prior discussions he thought the committee wanted business leaders or politicians to experience being disabled for a day.

Committee Member Joy Kneebone, Chair, mentioned something like that was already being done by Advocates for Access. Committee Member Roger Sparks mentioned he had done a “wheel chair for a day” event a couple of years ago.

As the discussion continued, the members looked at the ideas for mid-term goals. The majority of the group thought none of these goals should be pursued until after doing something about membership.

Committee Member Greg Speck motioned as a short-term goal start on recruitment efforts to bring new members. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Teri Miller.

Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote

Communications from Committee Member Roger Sparks
Committee Member Joy Kneebone, Chair, said wanted to discuss if members have concerns about the committee. Because Committee Member Roger Sparks had sent out a communication referencing the MACD, she wanted to know if he had any problems.
Committee Member Roger Sparks said he had no problems with committee. He said as an advocate for disabled rights he sent communication to Sonni Williams, Legal Department because submitted a FOIA request and was having trouble obtaining information on parking tickets. In the e-mail he mentioned some things that had not come before the committee in a while.

Committee Member Greg Speck mentioned he thought any communication going out that mentions the MACD should be approved in advance.

Committee Member Roger Sparks mentioned he is an advocate for disabled rights and he is going to speak about issues.

Committee Member Greg Speck said if there are items Committee Member Roger Sparks wants the group to discuss then put them on the agenda.

Staff Liaison David Watkins mentioned what he was attempting to do by forwarding Committee Member Roger Sparks’ e-mail to the members was to point out Committee Member Roger Sparks thought there were things he could not get on the MACD agenda. Watkins thought it was appropriate for the group to discuss this point.

During discussion, Committee Member Roger Sparks mentioned it was his understanding from talking with the Legal Department members of a city committee are thought of as unpaid staff. He reported every time he has wanted to get information from the city he has had to do so through a FOIA request.

Staff Liaison David Watkins said being the only staff person present he wanted to respond to Committee Member Sparks’ comment. Speaking only on what his department does Watkins said Committee Member Sparks has made a FOIA request for information from his department without first talking with the department. When he was contacted about the request, he was told you could have just asked for information.

Committee Member Teri Miller mentioned as someone who works for another governmental unit, general information is regularly given out but personal information only through FOIA. When she heard that the MACD
was brought up in Committee Member Sparks’ e-mail she thought when he is asking for something for personal reasons the MACD should not be mentioned.

As discussion concluded, Committee Member Roger Sparks apologized to the members.

Recommendation to Mayor
Committee Member Teri Miller said when she came on the committee she was given some old minutes to acquaint her on what the committee was doing. She mentioned the topic of new member ratio was discussed in July 2010. The idea has been discussed for three years. A decision needs to be made.

Committee Member Miller recalled when she made a motion to change the makeup of the committee it was voted down.

Committee Member Roger Sparks mentioned when the motion was being considered he opposed because it reduced the number of members with a disability on the committee.

As discussion continued, the members presented several ideas on lowering the overall size of the committee and ratio for disabled members.

Committee Member Teri Miller motioned to lower the size of the committee from twelve to nine with five seats being held by individuals without a disability and four with a disability. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Greg Sparks.

   Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

1.

ADJOURNMENT
Committee Member Greg Speck motioned to adjourn, seconded by Committee Member Teri Miller.