Mayor’s Advisory Committee for the Disabled Proceedings

: OFFICIAL MINUTES

The meeting was held on August 8, 2011, at 4:15 p.m., at City Hall Building, 419 Fulton St, Room 404, Chair Mike Van Cleve presiding.

ROLL CALL
Roll call showed the following Committee Members present: Roger Sparks, Teri Miller, Joy Kneebone, Janet Quintiliani, and Mike Van Cleve – 5. Absent: Connie M. Schiele, John Williams, Mabel VanDusen (Resigned), and Theresa Sies (Resigned) – 2. Also present was Patrick Urich, City Manager and Staff Liaison David Watkins, Equal Opportunity Manager.

MINUTES
Committee Member Teri Miller motioned to approve the April meeting minutes; seconded by Committee Member Roger Sparks.

Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote

COMMUNITY INPUT
None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
None

Publicity Committee
No report

Events Committee
No report

NEW BUSINESS
Committee Member Mike Van Cleve welcomed the City Manager to the meeting.
Committee Member Van Cleve asked the members for their thoughts on what training needs the Committee might need. Committee Member Joy Kneebone mentioned getting more information on the healthcare services available to individuals with disabilities. Committee Member Roger Sparks suggested getting training on accessible bus stops on public rights-away. He mentioned he had been working on this issue for some time with City Link.

The City Manager mentioned there had to be some coordination with the City to address placement of bus stops. He cited as an example a need to make changes to some City ordinances.

Staff Liaison David Watkins reported wanted to know their training needs because wanted to provide the committee members a base of knowledge that would allow them to respond to issues when asked. For example, when the Public Works Department spoke to the group about curb ramps he was not sure every committee member knew what the law required. Staff Liaison Watkins mentioned was looking for the Committee to identify areas, topics where they wanted to receive information and provide that information through some type of training.

Committee Member Janet Quintiliani asked regarding health opportunities if it was possible to show individuals with disabilities how to cook in a nutritious manner.

As discussion continued the members mentioned becoming more acquainted with other non-profit organizations. They also were reminded that they did not have to complete their list of ideas at this meeting. Each member was encouraged to think about what they may want training on and to communicate that to the chair.

Committee Member Teri Miller thought the idea of training was good, but she believed the more immediate priority should be increasing membership. The fact a number of meetings had to be canceled due to a lack of quorum concerned her. The members also discussed the short notice given for some canceled meetings. Committee Member Mike Van Cleve reported in the future he would inform the members of any meeting cancellation forty-eight hours in advance.
Committee Member Mike Van Cleve also announced his plan to meet with each member individually to garner their thoughts on how to re-energize the Committee. The City Manager mentioned he had talked with the Mayor about the composition of the Committee. He said the Mayor wanted everyone to know if there were names you wanted to bring forward he is ready to move them forward that would include anyone who was no longer on the committee but is ready to come back.

As discussion continued, Committee Member Roger Sparks commented on the new ADA ramp that is to be built. He mentioned he had not seen the drawing. He also thought the Committee should have been made aware of the project and the redesign brought before the committee for review. Staff Liaison David Watkins mentioned the reconstruction of the ADA ramp was in response to a complaint filed against the City. He further reported that the plans for the new ramp had been reviewed and approved by the federal government. The members were also reminded that the need to reconstruct the ramp was made known to them.

Committee Member Mike Van Cleve raised for discussion the time the committee met. While no decision had to be made at this meeting, he did want the members to think about changing the time. Committee Member Roger Sparks asked if a change in the day they met could be considered. The answer was yes.

Committee Member Van Cleve asked that the discussion to fill the vacant Vice Chair position be deferred to the next meeting. This prompted the members to examine what the by-laws said concerning the filling of this vacancy and when elections in general were to take place. Because the Vice Chair position has been vacant since Debbie Hannon resigned and the general election was to occur in October the members discussed waiting until then to fill the position. The members agreed to wait until October.

Committee Member Teri Miller asked about the terms expiration date on the committee directory. Because the date for Committee Member Janet Quintiliani showed her term expired on June 30, 2011, she wondered if Quintiliani was still a member. The answer was yes. Committee Member Van Cleve explained under the City’s process she remains a member of the committee until she is either replaced or resigns. Staff Liaison David
Watkins mentioned the Mayor’s office by letter notifies each member when their term is about to expire. The letter explains if they no longer want to be a member they need to contact the Mayor’s office.

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS
1. Training suggestions
2. Report on member interviews
3. Change in meeting day and time

ADJOURNMENT
Committee Member Joy Kneebone motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Committee Member Roger Sparks.

Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote