Mayor’s Advisory Committee for Citizen’s with Disabilities

Meeting Minutes
9/10/2019

Call to Order
The regular meeting of the Mayor’s Advisory Committee for Citizen’s with Disabilities was called to order at 4:08pm on 9/10/2019 in Peoria City Hall by Dr. Farris Muhammad.

Roll Call
Roll call showed the following: Present: Laurie Heinz (Chair), Kaye Berry, Doris Hayes, Ashonte Huddleston, Terri Roark.; Resigned: Melynda McKeever, Kendra Moses-Hagan; Absent: Mike Van Cleve, Quoran

Approval of Minutes
Chair calls for vote on approval of March meeting minutes; Commissioner Hayes makes motion to approve, motion seconded; approved by unanimous vote. Chair calls vote on July minutes; motion to approve is made; motion is seconded; minutes approved by unanimous vote.

Community Input
None.

Unfinished Business
None. The Committee is in need of two commissioners to replace the two commissioners who resigned.

New Business

New Commissioner to be appointed: Erin K. Nowlan; Commission Chair Hayes inquires if a vote to approve is noted, Dr. Muhammad denies that a vote is needed as the new commissioner has been appointed by the council/mayor. It is noted that the new commissioner should be present at the next meeting and has experience working with persons with disabilities. Commissioner Nowlan has worked as a State guardian in the past.

Recruitment organizations for disabilities are discussed: due to having two remaining vacancies that need filled; Per Dr. Muhammad the mayor has expressed concern for vacancies, and stated that in the past certain organizations that are allies to the disabled population have had candidates: City Link ADA, Advocates for Access, Commissioner Hayes inquires if it is limited to one commissioner per agency, Dr. Muhammad denies
limitation on number of commissioners from an agency. Commissioner Hayes reports that there may interested individuals at the company that she works for. Dr. Muhammad confirms that application for new commissioners can be completed online on the City of Peoria’s website. CWTC is recommended as a possible recruitment agency—Commission to contact recruitment agencies.

When full committee is created it is recommended to establish set goals. In addition, commissioner states that there is some guidance on the duty/role of the MACDD commission which commissioners can review.

It is discussed if there is a timeline for repair of the sidewalks and roads to meet ADA requirement of 2 inches—many are 4 inches or more at this time. Dr. Muhammad agrees that it would be a good idea for commissioners to document the roads/areas that are particularly bad and bring them to the attention of Public Works Department. Discussion of grant funds being available to complete these repairs/improvements. Dr. Muhammad explains potential timeline for how grant funds can be disbursed and how timelines of projects can be affected. Commissioner notes that she has reported issued to Peoria Cares App but there has been no response.

Dr. Muhammad shares that Peoria Cares is still the best place to report those concerns. Commissioner expresses concern that some of the sidewalks at City Link bus stops have not been made safe for persons with disabilities. It is noted by the commission that in the past City Link bus drivers could pick up/drop off at a more accessible location but due to changes that is no longer allowed. Commissioner inquires if this has been brought up at the ADA meetings.

Question raised by Commissioner concerning issues with private property (OSF Orthopedics) not having height restrictions noted on canopies in drop off areas. Commission inquires if this is the responsibility of the private property or someone else. Dr. Muhammad recommends that the property be contacted via email to express this concern.

Committee members discuss accessibility issues concerning sidewalks and drives around the City. Commissioner states that she will do research into the situation and provide that at the next meeting.

**Proposed Agenda Items**

When all positions are filled goals need to be developed.

Commission Chair to research issues with accessibility around the City and present that information at the next meeting.
Adjournment
Meeting was adjourned at 4:31pm by Dr. Farris Muhammad. The next general meeting will be at 4:00pm on October 8th, 2019, in Peoria City Hall.

Minutes submitted by:  Amelia Hufeld

Approved by:  Name