

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

March 12, 2015, MINUTES

Commissioners Present:

Roxanne Miles, Krystal Monteros, Luke Byram, Gerrit Nyland, Gary Peterson, Todd Holloway

Commissioners Absent: Don Izenman, JoAnn Fritsche, Susan Dye

Staff Present:

Vicki Walker, Sandy Davis, Cathy Journey, Joy St. Germain, Donlisa Scott

Guests Present:

Joan Eads, TACID

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm. Chair Nyland called for acceptance of the agenda for March 12, 2015 with a change that the PSHSE Presentation was rescheduled to the end of April. The agenda was accepted.

Commissioner Luke motioned to approve February 12, 2015 minutes with a correction to the spelling of Jeannie Darnelle's last name. The motion was seconded by Commission Peterson. The motion was then carried.

Public Comment

- None

REPORTS:

Human Resources Report – Joy St. Germain, Human Resources

- Director St. Germain reported on the feedback received from department director's regarding the COD committee description and to clarify roles, responsibilities and goals
- The City supports the ADA 25th Anniversary celebration event. Director St. Germain said there are some concerns about the scope of the event, as the budget for COD is \$2500 for the biennium. The scope of the event is large and has monetary costs that utilize a number of city staff resources, expectations, and commission member resources. Director St. Germain shared that Maria Gingrey of the Equity and Human Services Commission would like to partner with COD and has identified two events where COD could promote and celebrate the 25th anniversary. April 25th at the Family Community Learning Academy, and May 28 at the Fair Housing Conference in Tacoma. She also stated that the Broadways Farmer's Market would be another option for



promoting the 25th Anniversary. The Media and Communications office would help get the word out on all the things the Commission wants to do to celebrate the ADA anniversary. Sandy Davis has drafted a proclamation for the Mayor and City Council and would like to identify a date in July for the proclamation.

TACID – Joan Eads

Joan reported that TACID completed their reporting for the year and provided highlights for January – March 12, 2015.

Funding has been received for the new cycle from the City of Tacoma. 46% of the funding was cut and they have submitted a proposal to the Rotary to build up the funding for their projects.

They just completed their mental health block grant and have been recommended for continuation.

They are developing a resource guide that will address multiple disabilities. One of the untapped benefits of TACID is that they address multiple disabilities and breakdown all barriers.

They will begin interviewing for the Executive Director position, and five good potential applicants. If you know of anyone that would be interested, have them send their resume and cover letter to Joan@tacid.org.

They are planning a large ADA event in October and are hoping to get a well-known speaker to attract people to their fundraising event and to celebrate the ADA.

Staff Committee Liaisons and HR Director Role for Committee Information Document

Director St. Germain provided a handout on the 2015 COD Sub-Committee goals, city staff/ commission roles, responsibilities, and feedback from managers. Joy will forward a copy for the Commission to review. Gerrit said some time will be allocated during the committee meetings to look them over.

Business

Approve update to bylaws – (Cathy Journey, Training and Development)

Cathy provided an update on the bylaws. The only change we made was to the signature block.

Commissioner Miles submitted motion to approve bylaws. They were seconded by Commissioner Peterson. Everyone was in favor of approving bylaws and the motion carried. The bylaws were signed by Commissioner Gerrit and Myles. The official document will remain in the Neighborhood and Community Services Department. A copy will be forwarded to Commission members.

Team Charter Roles and Responsibilities

Cathy Journey asked that the Commission consider using a Meeting Evaluation form



at the end of each meeting. Discussion followed. Commissioner Peterson suggested adding a comments section to the bottom of the form. Discussion followed with overall agreement that this form would be helpful. The form will be sent with the meeting minutes. Cathy Journey provided an updated handout and the Commission reviewed the Team Charter. Discussion ensued and it was decided that a final copy of Team Charter will be reviewed during the April 9, 2015 meeting.

25th Anniversary of the ADA Celebration Update – Luke Byram

Commissioner Byram reported that the 25th Anniversary of the ADA event has been scheduled at TACID on September 26, 2015 from 11am – 4pm. Discussion ensued. The committee will meet on March 19, 2015 at TACID from 3:30pm – 4:45pm to discuss plans and proposed ideas for a smaller event or to piggy-back onto another event. Director St. Germain suggested that this might be an event that Vice-Chair Miles might oversee and involve everyone. She also noted that the city could do on email or use existing materials that could be prepared from the Commission. Discussion followed regarding distribution channels. The Mayor is developing a standard protocol on how Commissions can utilize social media. Director St. Germain will follow up and provide a status update.

Committee Reports:

Build Design, Planning and Parking – Roxanne Miles

Commissioner Miles reported that she has been working with Gail Himes. They are setting up their first subcommittee meeting with the new set of folks that will compliment. The Right Away group will continue but they will put the other issues in another one and they will get that going.

Effective Communication - Luke Byram

Next meeting Wed

ADA Web Accessibility – Chair Gerrit Nyland

Chair Nyland shared that there continues to be a problem with city staff buying software packages without a full understanding of how they work.

Emergency Management – Todd Holloway

Commission Holloway reported that they will address the Early Warning and Communications software and a few other things they are changing and the direction they are going. Commissioner Miles has started the SMART goals, and Commission Holloway will be adding to them. There are some communications that will be taking place between the City Fire and the County to work with some of the things that are in place and may be able to be adopted by Tacoma, and that will drive the goals for 2015.

Wheelchair Accessible Taxis – Krystal Monteros

Commissioner Monteros reported that they are working on a letter to Pierce Transit for



a donation. They are on the agenda for the next TACID Board meeting on March 25, 2015. They are hoping that the letter will be approved and ready to go to Pierce Transit by the end of the month. Chair Nyland mentioned that the taxi companies are slow in getting the information regarding the \$.10 per cab fee information to them regarding the amount of money that has been collected. He suspects that they will have the information by mid-April.

Employment – Gary Peterson

Commissioner Peterson reported that they are working on getting feedback on some of the training. He would like to sit in on one of the management trainings to see how it's presented and provide feedback. Sandy sent two videos to Cathy to incorporate into the Supervisor Management training. There was a concern about copyright issues and misspellings with the closed caption. They are working on having a departmental aide to work in various departments.

Good of the Order/Announcements

Commissioner Peterson shared that March is Title IV Telecommunication Accessibility Month

Jenie Adams, former member of the COD Commission recently had a book published called "Discovering Your Identity".

Chair Miles shared a flyer with Chair Nyland that advertised Tacoma Community College is hosting a Tools for Success conference on March 24th from 8am – 1pm which is a free conference for individuals with disabilities. Chair Nylan mentioned that this might be a recruitment opportunity. There are two open positions on the Commission. Cheryl Ellis of the Employment Committee recently applied.

Commissioner Byram shared that TCC is also hosting a Pierce County Resource Fair in partnership with PAVE and PC2 on March 24th from 6:30pm – 8:30pm.

Joan Eads shared that The University of Puget Sound is doing an event on Ableism next week.

Joint Human Rights Commission meeting scheduled on March 19th. Topic will be the current state of the City's employment, housing discrimination investigations.

Next Commission on Disabilities meeting, April 9th, 2015 - 4:00 – 6:00 pm

Joint Human Rights Commission and Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities Study Session – March 19th, 2015 – 5:30pm, TMB 708

Public Safety, Human Services, and Education Committee presentation, March 26th, 2015 – 4:30pm, TMB 248 (MOVED TO APRIL)

