

# Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Star Center, 3873 S. 66<sup>th</sup> St. Tacoma, WA 98409

Friday, May 10, 2019

4:00 PM

- Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m.
- Commissioners Present** Luke Byram, Philip Bradford, Todd Holloway, Lori Allison, Anthony Caldwell, Krystal Monteros
- Commissioners Absent** James Williams, Thu-Ha Lee, Rebecca Parson
- City Staff Present** Ann Martin, Thomas Okae-Asare
- Guests Present**
- Julian Wheeler
  - Tony Hester
  - Mia Hoffman
- Adoption of Agenda** The agenda was accepted.
- Acceptance of Minutes** A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the COD meeting minutes of April 12, 2019.
- Public Comment** None
- Guest Presenter** **Julian Wheeler**  
Mr. Wheeler spoke about the work that his group the ACAC (Accessible Communities Advisory Council)
- Reports**
- Chair—Todd Holloway**  
The Chair reported about progress with the Tacoma Dome  
Chair Holloway will provide a written report about the Independent Living Movement and his concerns about how the Administration on Community Living is making management changes that run counter to the disability rights movement.
- Commissioner Bradford** wants to make sure that the community has congressional representation to advocate for the disability community.
- Liaison Report – Lucas Smiraldo**
- Mr. Smiraldo gave a report on:
- James Williams must now use a wheelchair and ask commissioner to express support for commissioner Williams. (Members signed a name card that was sent to Mr. Williams the next week). Commissioner Allison wanted to explore Zoom to communicate with Commissioner Williams.

- Closed Caption Campaign – There is a meeting of CVS, June 13th 2019 at TMB 248 (subsequently rescheduled to July 11<sup>th</sup>) to request council submit resolution to support public education of closed captioning campaign in Tacoma. TACOD has requested that members of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services be present at the presentation. Tacoma has been in contact with Seattle and Portland who both passed ordinances to support Closed Captioning at Public Locations.
- TACOD will shorten its June 14th meeting to 5:30 PM to attend the City of Destiny Awards at the Star Center that same evening.
- No commission meeting in August to make room for a summer camp of disabled youth at Star Center.

**Comments to the liaison report:**

- The Vice Chair pointed out that she has a friend on the Seattle area commission and she could be in contact with him to see how their process went.
- The Chair will look at 508 compliance and accessibility and making audio descriptors more widely available
- Commissioner Alison said that the Public TV does have it and she views it in her home
- The Chair will send out a newsletter that is the report on emergency living and Sea-Tac is looking for support for an initiative about accessible vehicles
- Commissioner Caldwell asked if those loading zones are temporary or permanent.
- Mia Hoffman would like to be a volunteer in vetting different web pages.

**Committee Reports:**

- Commissioner Alison asks if there was a way to recommend for City of Tacoma use block letters or Sanskrit for the website. She wants a toolbar to increase the fonts or change the letters. Simple to enlarged lettering. She is in contact with the Hope/Vision foundation in Pierce County to look at their websites.
- The Vice Chair spoke about the Ethnic Fest. Lucas will check with the HRC to see if they have a presence there. Ethnic Fest is July 28<sup>th</sup>.
- The Chair wants to speak about GOTV for folks with disabilities.
- Commissioner Bradford spoke about how GOTV is important to Disability Rights Washington
- Commissioner Bradford addresses a ruling by CMS depriving

the possibility of collective bargaining for health insurance.  
DSHS created a consumer driven agency and report back to the  
Commission about its effects.

**Good of the  
Order/Announcements**

The Chair will provide the commission with information on emergency  
management.

**Closing**

**Agenda Building Items**

- *American with disabilities act*
- *DRA*
- *Chief Tory Green*
- *Update on housing situation*
- *Accessible prescriptions – specifically labeling*
- King County Taxi program information/speaker
- Close Captioning
- Inclusive Emergency Planning
- Emergency Mgmt - Red Cross more clearer working closer with  
City and their responsibilities
- Social Security changes
- Medicare/Medicaid benefits – have an expert come
- Director from Northwest ADA re: drug prescription labels
- NAMI, meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 6:00 pm of every month at  
TACID
- Get out disability voter registration will be coming up soon.  
Event will be probably held at TACID

**Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

**Next Commission on Disability Meeting: June 14, 2019**