

Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities Committee

Minutes

Zoom Remote Meeting Hosted in Tacoma, WA 98402

Friday, July 10, 2020

- Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.
- Commissioners Present** Luke Byram, Krystal Monteros, Lukas Barfield, Dylan O’Catherine, James Williams, Richard Smaby Todd Holloway and Anthony Caldwell
- Commissioners Absent** **Rebecca Parson**
- City Staff Present** Lucas Smiraldo, Mia Navarro
- Guests Present** Julian Wheeler, PCHS,
- Adoption of Agenda** A motion was made by commissioner Monteros and seconded by Commissioner Williims and carried to accept the COD meeting agenda of July 10, 2020.
- Acceptance of Minutes** A motion was made seconded and carried to accept the COD meeting minutes of June, 2020.
- Commissioners took turns checking in and sharing their favorite summer dishes.
- Public Comment** There was no public comment.
- New Business*** Commissioner Smaby asked to address concerns around public sidewalks and intersections in the city. The item was added to the end of the agenda.
- Guest Presenter*** None
- Reports*** Chair Holloway visited several topics in his report including:
1. Disabilities Rights Washington naming problems around medical rationing for people with disabilities during the COVID pandemic.
 2. Concerns that Tacoma, and even more so, the region are not prepared for a major natural disaster event, especially compounded by COVID.
 3. Chair Holloway will supply links to Comcast free internet program.
 4. The Chair promises to send out links to resources connected to his report
- Reports*** Lucas Smiraldo offered the liaison report which included the following: Mr. Smiraldo met with Deputy Chair Blocker to discuss the four primary recommendations made by TACOD and has agreed to help move all four recommendations forward.
1. Mr. Blocker will recommend funding to support a feasibility study to determine the best way to move accessible taxi forward in Tacoma.

2. The Deputy Mayor will support a TACOD recommendation that would encourage every board, commission and committee to offer remote access to public meetings moving forward. He will invite council members to support a resolution to this effect.
3. The Deputy Mayor supports TACOD efforts to develop a joint advisory committee with Tacoma School District to address learning challenges with students with learning disabilities in remote environments.
4. Deputy Mayor Blocker will work with TACOD and potentially with the Human Rights Commission and with Commission on Immigration and Refugee Affairs to address the public health and human rights crisis in our local prisons and the risks of COVID spread which threaten the city and regions population.
5. The liaison responded to Luke Byram who shared the scheduling of a follow up zoom on July 22 with Julie Anderson to discuss measures being taken to provide accessible voting for people with disabilities.
6. Mr. Smiraldo responded to another question indicating that the City of Destiny Awards will be taped and then shared by a link rather than as a live event.
7. Mr. Smiraldo discussed the mask donation program the city has implemented with vulnerable communities and Commissioner Holloway indicated the Center for Independence was taking advantage of the opportunity.
8. Commissioner Monteros and Barfield discussed general concerns about how to move forward with public and community safety and Ms. Monteros expressed deep feelings around the death of a man with a disability who sat in the passenger side of his vehicle and was killed after 87 bullets were fired by police in Federal Way.
9. Julian Wheeler offered a short report to discuss the upcoming celebration of the 30th anniversary of the ADA act on Tuesday, July 14th.

Subcommittee Reports: Covered in earlier reports.

Individual Reports

Commissioner Barfield discussed falsified cards that are appearing in the community seemingly giving people permission to not wear masks and commissioner Holloway indicated that this is being investigated by the Department of Justice.

Commissioner Caldwell has been working with Gail Himes with great success to address physical access concerns with good success. He indicated improvements have been made at 56th and Yakima and Park and 72nd on the east side.

New Business

Per Commissioner Smaby's request the commission discussed energizing the public works subcommittee and arranging a monthly meeting of four commissioners with Gail Himes. The Commissioners who agree to be active under the Chairpersonship of Commissioner Caldwell include Commissioners Smaby, Monteros and Byram. Liaison Smiraldo will help organize that meeting on zoom.

Commissioner Holloway ask for a motion to close the meeting which was offered and seconded and passed and the meeting closed at 5:32 PM.

Adjournment

Next meeting will be held on Friday August 14, 2020 at the usual time of 4 PM on a remote platform.