

**Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities MEETING MINUTES June 14, 2010**



Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities  
MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING  
(14, June, 2010)

The Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities convened in a regular meeting on 14, June, 2010 at 301 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Austin, Texas.

Vice Chair Chip Howe called the Board Meeting to order at 12:05 PM

Board Members in Attendance: Chip Howe, Kathy Kasprisin, Jesus Lardizabal, George Luc, Tanya Winters absent: Norman Kieke, Ron Lucey – both unexcused.

Staff in Attendance: Dolores Gonzalez

1. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Commissioner Kathy Kasprisin to approve the May 10, 2010 minutes; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Tanya Winters. The motion was approved unanimously by all.

2. **OLD BUSINESS-** No old business was discussed during June 14, 2010 AMCPD Meeting.

3. **NEW BUSINESS-**

a. **Presentation: Joan Bartz, Chair, University Hills Neighborhood Association Disabled Group Task Force-Discussion of health and safety standards for disabled residents of group homes**

➤ Updates

- Identify all group homes housing residents with disabilities to determine compliance.
- Update the cost: the number of calls dropped has shown improvement from 800 calls to 350 calls.

• Ms. Bartz testified for HB 216, which has passed including model standards

- Seven model standards for the health and safety of people with disabilities living in group homes will be ready by September 2010. After the standards are completed and authorized, then the city will need to choose what action it will take.
- CBI (Criminal Background Investigations) for employees, owners, and others, who work in group homes for people with disabilities. These CBIs will help to address the theft issues that occur in group home settings.
  - Standards address neglect and unsanitary conditions for people with disabilities living in group homes.
  - Standards will define owners and operators of group homes, as sometimes they are using family members or designees to operate homes.
  - The purpose of these standards is to make sure homes are suitable for people with disabilities by excluding non-heated and cooled spaces from housing them.
  - Options for the City of Austin to adopt a licensed agreement
    - The City of Austin can agree to licensed agreement (option 1)
    - The City can choose items from a licensed agreement (option 2)
    - The City does not do anything

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- The Taskforce hopes to work with the City on a licensed agreement
- The taskforce would like to get the AMCPD to support option 1
  - If the City enters into a licensed agreement, the taskforce will monitor that agreement
  - Ms. Bartz can provide a complete copy of the standards to commissioners
  - Commissioners Chip Howe and Tanya Winters will send Ms. Bartz a list of other organizations working on this issue.
  - Willie Williams, with Health and Human Services suggested bringing in Shannon Jones, the point person that would discuss the City options for a licensing agreement.
  - Commissioner Chip Howe recommended inviting Shannon Jones for a presentation and would like to see a second draft of the standards, but did recommend that the AMCPD take action.
  - For further information on the standards contact Joan Bartz: at voice 926-4161 or email: [jbartz29@att.net](mailto:jbartz29@att.net)
- b. **Subcommittee Reports**
  - **Access/Youth Subcommittee –Chair Tanya Winters**
    - The Subcommittee has received 17 nominations for the Austin Access Awards with a variety of businesses nominated.
    - The PSA for Accessible Parking will start filming on June 15
    - Commissioner George Luc updates as follows
      - Due to the high success of the pilot Open House at UT where students with disabilities, primarily deaf and hard of hearing, immersed in a college life simulation, Commissioner Luc is expanding his coordination with DARS Transition counselors and ACC staff to coordinate with area high schools and ACC students, thereby including more youth and more diverse disabilities.
    - DMD had a great initial planning meeting, revamping forms as well as set the date which is October 20.
  - **Employment/Awards Subcommittee - Commissioner Chip Howe for Subcommittee Chair Ron Lucey**
    - 2010 AMCPD Employment Awards
      - The Subcommittee has begun initial planning for this year's awards program.
      - The fund raising letter for this year's campaign was revised and ready to go.
    - Commissioner Howe has submitted nominations for the GCPD Employment Awards
    - Curt Voelkel inquired about the Austin Travis County Work Based Learning Program.
- 4. **ACTION ITEMS:** no motions but the following action items were discussed.
  - Commissioners Chip Howe and Tanya Winters will send Ms. Bartz a list of other organizations working on this issue.
  - Willie Williams, with Health and Human Services suggested bringing in Shannon Jones, the point person that would discuss the City options for a licensing agreement.
  - Commissioner Chip Howe recommended inviting Shannon Jones for a presentation.
- 5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None held during the June 14, 2010 Meeting.
- 6. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** Citizens Communication for June 14, 2010 Meeting:
  - a. Sheila Holbrook-White –Commissioner, Urban Transportation Commission (UTC) and Citizen Task Force for the November 2010 Transportation Bond
    - UTC has revamped its resolution to concentrate on ADA sidewalk compliance including AMCPD recommendations.
    - Staff liaison Dolores Gonzalez has the updated resolution and will send it out to the Commissioners.

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- Once both the UTC and AMCPD approve the final resolution, Shelia will send it to the City Council.
  - b. Boone J. Blocker, Commissioner, UTC and Citizen Task Force for the November 2010 Transportation Bond
    - June 17 4:00pm-8:00pm there will be an open house on the bond package in the City Hall atrium.
    - For more information on the Taskforce contact voice: 974-1150 or AustinStrategicMobility.com
  - c. Michael Zitz Evanich - Brain Injury Association of Texas Update on Recent Conference
    - Provided information on new research "Protect" concentrates on treating brain injury with progesterone to minimize the effect of mass injury.
7. **STAFF BRIEFINGS:** Dolores Gonzalez
- a. Budget: There were no expenses for the month of May 2010, balance of \$6,005.00 remains.
  - b. ADA Office conducting Onsite visits with all depts. to review ADA requirements and training needs.
  - c. ADA intern assisted in producing an Austin Disability Fact Sheet for new comers to city.
  - d. City budget – City Manager will be scheduling meetings for public to get input on budget.
  - c. Calendar
    - SSA Working with SSI 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday at Work Source 6305 Airport
    - Texas Advocates Meeting August
8. **Commissioner Chip Howe expressed thanks to Channel 6 for televising and providing captions at meetings.**
9. **ADJOURN** – A motion was made to adjourn the June 14, 2010 meeting of AMCPD by Commissioner Kathy Kasprisin; the motion was seconded by Commissioner George Luc. The motion was approved unanimously by all.