

Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities MEETING MINUTES June 13, 2011



Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities
MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
(13, June, 2011)

The Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities convened in a regular meeting on 13, *June, 2011* at 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Norman Kieke called the Board Meeting to order at 12:05 PM

Board Members in Attendance: Norman Kieke, Kathy Kasprisin, Chip Howe, Tanya Winters, Jesus Lardizabal

Absent: George Luc, Ron Lucey

Staff in Attendance: Dolores Gonzalez

1. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Commissioner Chip Howe to approve the May 09, 2011 minutes the motion was seconded by Commissioner Tanya Winters. The motion was approved unanimously by all.
2. **OLD BUSINESS** no old business conducted at this meeting.
3. **NEW BUSINESS**

Presentation: Vincent Delisi, Supervisor, Environmental and Consumer Health Unit / Austin Travis County Health and Human Services Department (ATCHHSD) - Update on recent forum regarding boarding house regulations.

- Updates from recent forums regarding boarding house regulations
 - Boarding house regulations were first developed by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) in 2009 for adoption by local jurisdictions.
 - The City begin work in 2009 to adopt these regulations
 - The Goal was to provide oversight for the health and safety of the residents of boarding houses, and to improve and maintain operational standards of those houses.
 - The new boarding house regulations would fall in line with what has been discussed by the HHSC including these areas:
 - Constructing and remodeling of boarding houses
 - Sanitary and related conditions
 - The reporting and investigations of injuries, incidents, and unusual accidents; and establishment of policies and procedures for health and safety
 - Assistance with self-administering medication
 - Requirements for in-service education of faculty and staff
 - Criminal History, background checks, and assessment and periodic monitoring to ensure that a resident does not require personal care, nursing, or other services and is capable of self-administering medication
 - All stakeholders on the issue believe that there is a need for oversight, but disagree on how much is needed.

Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities MEETING MINUTES June 13, 2011

- Since that decision, HHSD has been conducting public hearings, and partnering with local community partners, organizations, and citizens to shape proposed regulations.
 - HHSD has reviewed the standards from HHSC, and has met with the City planning team and The University Hills Neighborhood Association Disabled Group Home Taskforce. HHSD then drafted proposed regulations.
 - Financial Analysis to develop the program has been submitted.
 - A member of the HHSD staff has been assigned to coordinate the program's planning and development.
 - HHSD has created a webpage for the public to view the proposed regulations.
 - www.ci.austin.tx.us/health
- Timeframe
 - In March 2011 HHSD will reassign an HHSD supervisor to conduct data analyses and develop draft ordinance.
 - In October 2011 HHSD will hire a social worker to plan provisions for case management services to tenants.
 - In FY 2012 HHSD will complete hiring for program inspection team to include a registered nurse, sanitarian, code enforcement officer, and administrative staff.
 - On January 1, 2012 HHSD will begin inspections and permitting.
- One of the difficulties is defining a boarding house, as there are quite a few definitions; some are designed to be restrictive while others are broad.
 - An establishment in one or more buildings that furnish lodging for three or more elderly or disabled persons unrelated to owner operator by marriage or blood.
 - Providing community meals, light housework, meal preparation, transportation, grocery services, money management, assistance with self medication, but does not provide personal care services to those living there.
- A significant challenge facing the city is cost for implementing the regulations and how success for the program would be measured. City would need 6 city staff members and city vehicles at a cost of about \$500,000.00 per fiscal year to enforce regulations
- Other challenges include inconsistencies in existing city code regarding various boarding house models and permitting requirements and the legal questions that need to be answered regarding zoning issues and the scope and applicability of state and federal laws for the disabled and elderly.
- Another problem is that there is no complete registry of all boarding houses in the city and county for effective enforcement.
- Discussion
 - Chair Norman Kieke discussed a great program that was presented a year ago by United Hills Neighborhood Association Disabled Group Home Taskforce. When operators were asked about regulating boarding houses they were in favor. However, the operators are concerned, about the overall cost to them to implement regulations. The AMCPD will continue to research more information online before making a recommendation to council. www.ci.austin.tx.us/health

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Access/Youth Committee –Chair Tanya Winters**
 - Chair Tanya Winters announced that the second accessible parking PSA is scheduled with Channel 6 for July 12 and July 13.
 - Ms. Winters encouraged nominations for the Austin Access Awards, urging citizens to recognize businesses that are not only accessible but welcoming to people with disabilities; the nomination forms can be found at:

Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities MEETING MINUTES June 13, 2011

http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/ada/access_nomform.htm. The awards will be held in late July. The deadline for nominations is July 8.

- Commissioner Jesus Lardizabal continues to attend the Imagine Austin meetings; no other update was reported.

➤ **Awards/Employment Committee – Chair Norman Kieke for Committee Chair Ron Lucey**

- Chair Norman Kieke told the committee that the Goodwill Community Career Expo would be held on June 23 from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at the Goodwill Community Center.
- This year's Employment and Disability Awards program would be at the Austin Doubletree Hotel. This year's keynote speaker will be Lex Frieden, current Chair of the National Council on Disability. A program change for this year will be shortening the awards presentation and presenting some at a later date in Council Chambers. This will ensure ample time for the Texas Governor's Committee Employment Awards program, which the AMCPD will be hosting this year.

4. **ACTION ITEMS:** No action items recorded for the June 13, 2011 AMCPD Meeting:

5. **PUBLIC HEARING:** no citizen hearings were held during the June 13, 2011 AMCPD Meeting.

6. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** Citizen communications were recorded during the June 13, 2011 AMCPD Meeting

➤ **Tony Robertson, Administrator -City of Austin Equal Employment Fair Housing Office**

- Introduced Committee to International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA)
 - The City and the Austin Human Rights Commission will be hosting the IAOHRA Conference this year.
 - This is the 63rd conference for the association, which will take place at the downtown Sheraton from August 27 through September 2. Online registration is available at: <http://www.IAOHRA.org>
 - A description of services provided by the EE/FHO encompasses taking complaints of employment and housing discrimination. For more information, please call 974-3251.
 - <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/hrights/>

7. **STAFF BRIEFINGS:** Dolores Gonzalez

- **Budget:** There was one expense for the month of May 2011, \$100.00 for renewing the AMCPD membership with the Coalition for Texans with Disabilities (CTD) leaving the balance unchanged at \$6,005.00
- The ADA Office partnered with the Texas Governor's Committee to bring FEMA Director for the Office of Disability Integration and Coordination Ms. Marcie Roth to a community panel on Emergency Preparedness and including people with disabilities in the planning. The panel met at the Boards and Commissions Room on June 2nd with professionals from local and state emergency planning organizations.
- The ADA office conducted an Arts Contractor Training on May 18 with almost 100 Contractors in attendance.
- This ADA office continues to conduct departmental onsite meetings. Meetings occur between the office and departmental ADA Coordinators/teams to go over ADA requirements, identify departmental ADA needs, and obtain information from departments for the annual ADA implementation report.

Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities MEETING MINUTES June 13, 2011

CALENDAR

- June 23, 2011 Community Career Expo at Goodwill Community Center 1015 Norwood
- Aug 26-28 Texas Advocates Conference in San Antonio
- Sept 8-9 Film Festival with VSA Arts
- Oct 19, 2011 Disability Mentoring Day (DMD)
- Oct 20, 2011 White Cane Day
- Oct 22-23 CTD Film Festival
- Oct 25, 2011 Texas Governors Committee and Mayor's Committee Employment Awards at the Doubletree Austin Hotel

8. **Future Agenda Items:** none discussed for June 13, 2011 meeting

9. **ADJOURN** – A motion was made to adjourn the June 13, 2011 meeting of AMCPD by Commissioner Kathy Kasprisin; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Jesus Lardizabal. The motion was approved unanimously by all.