



Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities
MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
(14, November, 2011)

The Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities convened in a regular meeting on 14, November, 2011 at 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Jesus Lardizabal called the Board Meeting to order at 12:05 PM

Board Members in Attendance: Jesus Lardizabal, Chip Howe, Kathy Kasprisin, Norman Kieke, George Luc, Tanya Winters. Absent member - Ron Lucey

Staff in Attendance: Dolores Gonzalez, Lee Nguyen

1. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Commissioner Chip Howe to approve the October 10, 2011 minutes; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Norman Kieke. The motion was approved unanimously by all.
2. **OLD BUSINESS** no old business conducted at the November 14, 2011 AMCPD Meeting
3. **NEW BUSINESS**

Presentation: Jesus Lardizabal AMCPD Chair - Presentation of 2011 AMCPD Scholarships, Chairman's Commendations and Partnership Awards

➤ **Scholarship recipients**

- Monady Vijeh Ma'ani – in attendance
- Michael Friga
- Kyle Gonzalez – in attendance
- William Musslewhite
- Ollyanne Offor

➤ **Chairman's Commendations**

- Jean Langendorf's work for and with people with disabilities spans more than a quarter century. She is one of the most prominent advocates for disability housing that is integrated, affordable, and accessible. Jean has believed in empowerment of people with disabilities by providing support for them to live in the community with dignity and independence. She has sought to involve those whose lives are affected and allow their voices to be heard.
- Randy Armstrong sustained a traumatic brain injury in a car accident with a drunk driver. Randy sustained near death injuries and was in a coma for over two months. He slowly relearned to walk again, began employment with Target as a Sales Associate. Randy reported they hired me for my ability and stated, "My employment at Target allows me to serve as a positive role model and regardless of one's disability; you can still work, get married, have children and have a quality of life."

- Sharron Rush is the co-founder and Executive Director of Knowbility, Inc. She is an activist! She and her organization have been (and remain) in the forefront of accessibility education and testing. Sharron created an innovative program that provides employment for people with disabilities as they evaluate web sites for accessibility. She has been involved with all levels of accessibility and people with disabilities with programs and projects that span the age and educational range from kindergarten to adulthood.
- Steve Hamman is a dedicated advocate and defender of people with disabilities in their fight for inclusion in meaningful education and social environments. Throughout his career as a teacher and administrator, Steve worked tirelessly to ensure that all students with disabilities were provided education in the least restrictive setting and that parents were encouraged to be active participants in decisions regarding their child's educational life.
- TJ Maxx #266 exhibits high standards of hiring persons with disabilities and including all diversity of the ethnical and cultural communities. They are always inclusive of a supported employment consultant and/or job coach when necessary. They are also supportive of summer work initiatives for youths with disabilities, and they are receptive if other programs are available to encourage and inspire persons with disabilities. All positions and opportunities for advancement are reviewed with professional respect toward the individual's abilities, not the disabilities.

➤ **AMCPD Partnership Awards**

▪ **Austin Independent School District Supported Employment**

In recognition of a lasting partnership to prepare Austin youth with disabilities for successful employment. AMCPD congratulates Austin Independent School District Supported Employment for a meaningful and lasting partnership in support of Austin youth with disabilities. The Committee greatly appreciates the leadership of AISD's Supported Employment Supervisor, Nancy Gorton and the assistance of AISD Supported Employment team members who annually give their support to the planning of National Disability Mentoring Day in Austin, providing vocational mentoring for their students. We further recognize and appreciate AISD's commitment to successful employment for their students with disabilities and their many nominations of award winning Austin employers, who profit by investing in the full employment of workers with disabilities.

▪ **City of Austin Channel 6**

In great appreciation for a partnership to inform the community through accessible broadcasting of disability issues. AMCPD appreciates the ongoing support of Austin Channel 6 staff members and their manager, Keith Reeves to help communicate to the public on important disability issues through the broadcast of AMCPD's monthly meetings with closed captioning. AMCPD also appreciate the ongoing audio visual support for special events in the community like the Mayor's 2011 White Cane Day proclamation at the State Capitol. Finally, we gratefully acknowledge Channel 6 for their partnership to produce award-winning public service announcements on accessible parking.

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- **Workforce Solutions - Capital Area** *In recognition of a partnership to prepare Austin job seekers with disabilities for successful employment.* AMCPD congratulates Workforce Solutions - Capital Area for their partnership to support the full employment of Austin job seekers with disabilities through support of the annual Community Career Expo and Business of Work Job Readiness Seminar. AMCPD appreciates the leadership and support of Workforce Solutions Disability Navigator, Marcela Patrick for delivering essential job readiness training to an estimated 100 job seekers with disabilities at this year's Business of Work Seminar.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Access/Youth Committee –Chair Tanya Winters the Access/Youth committee report for the November 14, 2011 AMCPD meeting was tabled.

Awards/Employment Committee–Ron Lucey the Awards/Employment report for the November 14, 2011 AMCPD meeting was tabled.

4. **ACTION ITEMS:** There was one action item recorded for the November 14, 2011 Meeting:
 - A motion to table the committee reports and staff report, was made by Commissioner Tanya Winters, the motion was seconded by Commissioner George Luc. The motion was approved unanimously by all.
5. **PUBLIC HEARING:** no citizen hearings were held during the November 14, 2011 AMCPD meeting.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: no citizen communication was received during the November 14, 2011 AMPCD meeting.

7. **STAFF BRIEFINGS:** The Staff briefing for the November 14, 2011 AMCPD meeting was tabled.

CALENDAR There were no calendar items for the November 14, 2011 Meeting of the AMCPD

8. **Future Agenda Items:** **No future agenda items were discussed at the November 14, 2011 meeting of the AMCPD**
9. **ADJOURN** – A motion was made to adjourn the November 14, 2011 meeting by Commissioner Kathy Kasprisin; the motion was seconded by Commissioner George Luc. The motion was approved unanimously by all.