



Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities MEETING MINUTES September 22, 2014

Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (22 Sept, 2014)

The Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities convened in a regular meeting on 22 Sept, 2014 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: Chair Jesus Lardizabal, Vice Chair Tanya Winters, Chip Howe, Kathy Keller, Norman Kieke, Ron Lucey, absent Adam Slosberg

Staff in Attendance: Dolores Gonzalez, Lee Nguyen

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Ron Lucey made a motion to approve the August 11, 2014 minutes. Commissioner Tanya Winters seconded the motion. All approved.
2. **OLD BUSINESS:** For discussion and possible action
 - STEAR recommendation from the Committee. The Committee discussed a recommendation for registry and awareness in case of emergencies and confirmed the language for the recommendation.
3. **NEW BUSINESS:** For discussion and possible action
 - Presentation: John Eastman, Public Works Department – Staff providing an update on Sidewalk Master Plan and ADA Transition Plan. Project manager overseeing projects dealing with sidewalks & curb ramps; 25 million has been set aside.
 - Overview
 - Currently, there are 2,650 miles of sidewalks within the City including 410 miles of driveways.
 - 2006 - The City of Austin Sidewalk Maintenance Program was initiated (driveways were still under landowners' responsibility to bring into compliance)
 - 2009 - The Sidewalk Master Plan was adopted (updated) Absent Sidewalk Prioritization Maintenance was included in the plan, but not endorsed at the time.
 - 2012 - Imagine Austin comprehensive plan was adopted and the 2012 Transportation and Mobility Bond was passed; this provided 143.3 million in total funding with 25 million dedicated to sidewalks.
 - 2014 - The Pedestrian Advisory Council was formed, and the Sidewalk Master Plan is now being reviewed for an update.
 - 2009 Sidewalk Plan and current Sidewalk Program
 - The 2009 Plan established a new prioritization matrix based on a GIS database of existing and absent sidewalks. Through the plan, it was discovered there was a funding need of 824 million to build new sidewalks and a 120 million funding need to bring existing sidewalks up to current ADA standards.
 - The Project Prioritization matrix looks at over 20 different indicators when planning sidewalk projects including: pedestrian, transportation, and funding indicators.
 - The current sidewalk program is funded at 5 million annually with a funding increase to 7 million annually for 2015-2020. Those funds are used for new sidewalks and for improvements to bring existing infrastructure to current standards.

- Sidewalk Improvement Plan Overview
 - 55 million has been expended to construct 103 miles of new sidewalks, repair 21 miles of existing sidewalks, and repair 2,500 curb ramps.
 - The Sidewalk Program supports Imagine Austin including: the initiatives for green infrastructure, livability and transportation.
- New Update Priorities
 - The new update will look into how other cities are implementing sidewalk plans through a peer cities review.
 - The Absent Sidewalk Prioritization Map will be updated with new scoring for 311 calls and additional points that can be awarded by the ADA Sidewalk Taskforce.
 - The Sidewalk program will work more comprehensively with the Public Works Maintenance Program on project collaboration.
- Presentation: Pedestrian Advisory Council member rescheduled until October 13 meeting. Request support from the committee for Vision Zero recommendation to Council. The goal is zero deaths and serious injuries on the transportation network and would apply to all modes of traffic, including pedestrians.
- Committee Reports
 - Access & Youth Committee – Chair Tanya Winters
 - Committee Chair Tanya Winters encouraged nominations for the Austin Access Awards taking place on October 28. Nominations can be submitted online at: <https://austintexas.gov/austinaccessawards>
 - Commissioner Kathy Keller reported to the committee that the Disability Mentoring Day (DMD) planning committee is in the process of matching the mentees to their mentors at a meeting September 23.
 - Commissioner Kathy Keller, reported to the committee that Council Member Laura Morrison has been invited to present the DMD proclamation at event.
 - Awards & Employment Committee – Chair Ron Lucey
 - Committee Chair, Ron Lucey reported to the committee that the AMCPD Business of Work program, Rocking Tomato a AMCPD Smaller Employer of the Year, and Celia Hughes will be recognized at the Governor’s Committee Awards taking place on October 22nd in Dallas. Celia will be receiving the Governor’s Trophy.
 - Committee Chair Ron Lucey reported the progress with the Employment awards planning. Thanks to Katie Navine for helping secure the award judges. Committee Chair Lucey confirmed Denise Sonleitner as this year’s Awards Keynote Speaker.
 - Committee Chair Ron Lucey told the Committee that the deadline for employment awards nominations will be September 26.
 - The event is scheduled for Tuesday October 28, at Wyndham Garden Austin Hotel 3401 S IH35.

4. **ACTION ITEMS:** one action item was recorded during the September 22, 2014 AMCPD meeting please see Future Agenda Items for the action.
5. **PUBLIC HEARING:** No public hearings were held during the September 22, 2014 meeting.
6. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** There were two citizens who spoke during the September 22, 2014 meeting
 - Geronimo Rodriguez VP of Diversity, Peter Rieck Seton Healthcare Family: Project Search update: there are now 36 students at 4 Seton sites.
 - Geronimo Rodriguez is here to ask for a recommendation for the committee to support an ADA compliant aerial walkway from Brackenridge to the new teaching hospital parking garage. The route will protect patients and their families by providing a safe route to their vehicles.

- Peter Rieck reported that after looking at various ways to make an accessible path it was discovered that tunnels were infeasible, and sidewalk grades would be too steep. Though sidewalks would be upgraded with this plan, the safest way to make this crossing at 15th and Red River is the aerial walkway. It is estimated that 6,000 trips annually would be made at this crossing. Seton has been asked to take this plan to the Planning and Design Commission, as well, for feedback.
- AMCPD will support the resolution, after checking with City Clerks to see if the Committee can take action on an unlisted agenda item. At this time, there is general support from the Commissioners to support recommendation.
- Seton will present the aerial walkway plan to the planning commission on Sept 23 and to the City Council on Sept 25. Commissioners are encouraged to provide testimony as individuals and not commissioners, since this was a non-agenda item.

7. STAFF BRIEFING: Dolores Gonzalez

- Budget: report: There was no expense for the month of August, leaving a fiscal year balance of \$6,005.00.
- Finalizing the Annual Onsite visits with all departments. These meetings offer an opportunity to discuss requirements of ADA, communications, trainings and just to check in and see if there are any ways we can assist. This month: Contract Management, APD Training, and the Aviation Department conclude this year's on sites meetings.

CALENDAR

- Sep 23 National Voting Registration Day
- Sep 23-25 DMD Matching Meetings
- Sep 24 Disability Issues Forum presented by Disability Voting Action Project at the Radisson Hotel. \$10 registration fee.
- Sept 28 Bodyshift dance performance will be in front of US Federal Courthouse at 5pm
- Oct 15 White Cane Day at Republic Square Park
- Oct 17-18 CTD Disability Film Festival Alamo Drafthouse South
- Oct 18 Personal Care Attendant BBQ
- Oct 21-23 Alternative Mental Health Peer Conference in Orlando, FL scholarships being offered.
- Oct 22 Disability Mentoring Day at the Asian American Resource Center
8401 Cameron Road
- Oct 28 Disability Employment Awards Program – Wyndham Garden Hotel 3401 S IH 35

8. Future Agenda Items: Commissioner Ron Lucey made a motion to add the Seton Aerial Walkway recommendation to October's AMCPD meeting agenda. Commissioner Chip Howe seconded the motion. All approved.

9. ADJOURN – A motion was made to adjourn the September 22, 2014, meeting by Commissioner Chip Howe; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Kathy Keller. All approved.