



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES

Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 3:30 P.M.

Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m. Those present and absent were:

Present:

Derrick Espadas
Sue Kroeger
Wesley Derbyshire
Jonathan Lee Confer
Zach Coble, Chairperson
Ray Jordan
Lily Bogan

Representing

Mayor's Office
City Manager
Ward 2
Ward 3
Ward 4
Ward 5
Ward 6

Absent:

Kate Elliott

Representing:

City Manager

Staff and Others Present:

Rick Guerra
Susana Zamora
Chris Desborough
Jennifer Bonham
PJ Dixon

City Clerk's Office
City Clerk's Office
Ward 2 Staff
OEOP Department
DRT Presenter

2. Call to the Public

Jennifer Bonham was introduced and will be taking over in an interim capacity for Rebecca Hill who has retired.

3. Presentation and Discussion of Disability Response Training for Tucson Police Officers with P.J. Dixon

Dixon was introduced and shared a presentation on his Disability Response Training to TPD. The program includes:

1. Familiarization with disabilities and mobility devices
2. Controlling and cuffing
3. Lifting and searching

Dixon noted that police officers across the country receive training in cognitive and emotional disabilities, but little on physical disabilities.

4. Consideration and Possible approval of January 15, 2025, Meeting Minutes.

It was moved by Commissioner Lee, duly seconded, and carried by a roll call vote of 7 to 0, to approve the Minutes of January 2025.

5. Discussion and Feedback of Walkway Accessibility and Safety effort with Commissioner Lee Confer.

Commissioner Lee Confer is currently working with American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) – ASTM helps develop standards for safety for disability and public health. They are looking at an open canvas to help create standards for the public. This encompasses everything inside a building and outside a building including parking spaces.

Commissioner Jordan recommends the repairs to the sidewalks be done correctly.

Commissioner Derbyshire recommends the crosswalks be aligned with posts that hold the button to activate the signal to cross the

street off the pavement, so wheelchair users and blind people have better access.

Chairperson Coble suggested that if they are adding signifiers that they be flat and that they are stationary to accommodate mobility devices.

6. Discussion of Parks and Recreation Accessibility and opportunity to draft memo.

Commissioner Jordan suggested a pedestrian pathway for better access to the Zoo and Aquatic Recreation Center at Reid Park and raised the question of how many other Parks and Recreation facilities lack good pathways for pedestrians.

Chairperson Coble mentioned that Director Hamwey identified that park's accessibility issue and added that to a database.

Jennifer Bonham will ask if the database is publicly available in a format that is usable.

Chairperson Coble asked for a volunteer to help write the memo to Mayor and Council.

7. Possible Update from City Clerk liaisons on ability of CODI to issue press release.

The City Clerk will follow up again with the attorney.

8. Announcements.

Chairperson Coble oversees updating the CODI tracking document to track the progress and the work so far, but will report on this next month.

Commissioner Jordan was appointed to the Tucson Transit Advisory Committee. He will provide updates after the next meeting.

Commissioner Kroeger is reviewing the Plan Tucson and may attend the next public meeting.

Chairperson Coble announced that there is a meeting on March 6th at 10:30 at the Ward 2 office regarding possible options for Sun Van. There is an Art Exhibit at the Mexican Consulate on Broadway and Alvernon on March 21, 2025.

Commissioner Espadas announced the Bailey beats Fund Raiser for Charcot Marie Tooth research and a virtual jail on March 8, 2025 as well as entertainment on Castro and Grant.

9. Adjournment: 4:57 PM