

COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
GLENDALE MAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD ROOM
5959 WEST BROWN STREET, GLENDALE, ARIZONA

Meeting Minutes

FEBRUARY 17, 2009

6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Robert Koehler Dwante Jackson
 Mounib Shaaban Shirley Galvez
 Erik Hendrix Robert Muth
 Danielle Bohall (arrived at 6:38pm) Ricki Ray, Chairperson

Members Absent: Margaret Kulp, excused

Staff Present: Sylvia Charters, Jim Brown, Debbie Burson, Human Resources and Diana Figueroa, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:33pm. A quorum was present.

Chairperson Ray announced that Commissioner Gary Charlson moved out of his appointed district and Commissioner Ray Heffley resigned for health reasons.

2. Approval of Minutes from January 20, 2009, Meetings

Chairperson Ray stated on page 4, item C, there was a spelling error.

Chairperson Ray called for a Motion.

Commissioner Shaaban made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Hendrix seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Guest Speakers:

Chairperson Ray introduced Ms. Cathy Colbath, Transit Administrator with the City of Glendale and Ms. Carol Ketcherside, Transit Administration with Valley Metro.

Ms. Colbath greeted the Commission and had stated she had visited the Commission a few times in the past. She provided the Commission with a brief synopsis of the responsibilities of her division. She asked if the Commission had any questions.

Ms. Ketcherside presented a PowerPoint for the Commission to outline the proposed ADA Transit Pass and Eligibility Program. She began with an overview and reviewed the legal requirements of the program. Ms. Ketcherside provided the Commission with

information regarding the study conducted in the fall of 2007. She reported the findings of that study. She continued by stating the recommended process improvements. She included in her presentation a listing of how this program would be beneficial to its customers. Ms. Ketcherside displayed a chart showing the estimated savings this program will bring. She concluded with a summary of recommendations and provided the next steps for the Commission.

Chairperson Ray asked about travel training. Ms. Ketcherside stated that is currently being reviewed in the program. She mentioned most cities have their own travel training program. Ms. Colbath said the City of Glendale provides travel training.

Chairperson Ray asked how qualified eligibility evaluators will be selected for professional verification of disability for applicants requiring a second assessment. Ms. Ketcherside explained that if this proposal is adopted there will be an RFP out with the scope of work.

Chairperson Ray asked where the applicant interviews would be held. Ms. Ketcherside stated there is only one location in downtown Phoenix currently being planned.

Commissioner Hendrix asked if the savings would be reinvested. Ms. Ketcherside explained that under Proposition 400, 7% of the tax is reserved for paratransit and is allocated to the cities proportionate to the population.

Commissioner Hendrix commented on the wonderful bus system in Seattle, Washington. Ms. Ketcherside stated Seattle has three times the amount of funding that Phoenix has for public transportation.

The Commission thanked the ladies for their helpful information and requested continued communication in regards to future public hearings.

4. New Business

Commissioner Koehler presented Chairperson Ricki Ray with a plaque of appreciation as her term has expired with the Commission. Chairperson Ray expressed her thanks and stated she would miss the Commission and its activities.

2009 Goals

Chairperson Ray stated that Mr. Jim Brown has returned to conclude the established 2009 Commission Goals

Mr. Brown reviewed the goals established in last month's meeting.

1. To improve handicapped parking in the areas of availability and enforcement
2. Develop parameters for grant program and determine funding
3. Develop a communication strategy with council, and partners
4. Establishing a presence throughout the community (outreach) publicity
5. Continue to educate the public and businesses about accessibility

6. Develop a FAQ web page

Ms. Paula Moloff, Grants Writer for the City of Glendale, introduced herself and offered her assistance with regard to grant writing. She stated the Commission could contact her at anytime when they were ready to begin or needed assistance when writing grants to find funding resources. Ms. Moloff noted just a few of the grants received by the city. She thanked the Commission for the invitation.

Commissioner Muth commented on Goal #1. He requested clarification regarding handicapped parking. He feels some commercial or medical offices do not offer enough handicapped parking spaces. He questioned if this is a state, federal, or city regulation.

Mr. Brown explained he'd like to review each goal and identify objectives, timeframes, and which Commissioner or Commissioners is responsible.

Commissioner Muth asked to identify what is meant by handicapped parking and which jurisdiction does it fall. Chairperson Ray added handicapped parking falls under all jurisdictions.

Mr. Brown said the ADA guidelines should be accessed in order to determine what the definition is for handicapped parking. The Commission said this could be completed by the next meeting. Commissioner Muth would be responsible for Goal #1.

Commissioner Shaaban said enforcement was also an issue. The Commission agreed they need to continue communication with Public Safety and Council as well as distribute information to the citizens. Commissioner Muth suggested any newsletters the City distributes should be one method of communication. Chairperson Ray reminded the Commission that the City Court is currently gathering data related to disabled parking violations. She suggested the Commission ask for that data as they will need some facts to present to the Council, Public Safety, and the citizens of Glendale.

Mr. Brown asked for a volunteer for the enforcement of Goal #1, objective 2. After much discussion, the Commission decided to table this portion of the Goal #1.

Mr. Brown continued with Goal #2. Commissioner Koehler said the parameters for the grant program have been developed. Goal #2 was modified to read Determine grant program funding.

Commissioner Hendrix said funding sources should be determined, whether it would be utilizing the grants facilitator, Paula Moloff, the Internet, or other cities. He added if there is no funding, would there be an alternative to the mini grant program. The Commission agreed this is an ongoing issue. Commissioner Koehler volunteered to champion this Goal with Commissioner Hendrix assisting.

Mr. Brown continued with Goal #3, Develop a communication strategy with Council and partners. Commissioner Koehler explained that Council member Frate will be hosting a Spring Fling in his district on February 21, 2009. He said Council member Frate offered a table to the Commission at this event. Commissioner Koehler stated although he felt they were not prepared to make a formal presence at this event, they are invited to attend. Chairperson Ray reminded the Commissioners of Public Meeting laws when they attend community events.

In addition, it was suggested all new Commissioners should attend the Basic Training provided by the City Council Office. For those existing Commissioners, a refresher course in Basic Training may also be beneficial.

The Commission agreed that making contact with each Council member's district meeting or function once a year would be appropriate. They discussed the need to develop information to distribute to the public. Currently, there is only a banner and the website, with no pamphlets to distribute. Commissioner Jackson agreed with Mr. Brown that this item could be completed by May. Commissioner Jackson agreed to champion this Goal.

Mr. Brown continued with Goal #4. The Commission felt this was similar to Goal #3 and agreed to combine the two.

Mr. Brown moved forward to Goal #5; educate the public and businesses about accessibility. Chairperson Ray noted the existing on-line survey as well as AccessGlendale and the guide to dining for the disabled community. She asked who would be answering questions received through the Access Glendale email. Commissioner Bohall agreed to take responsibility for replying to the inquiries made by citizens.

Mr. Brown suggested re-launching the survey on the web. He suggested a survey should be revised or refreshed every 12 months in order to receive the maximum attention for those that visit the page.

Mr. Brown concluded with Goal #6, Develop a FAQ on web page. Commissioner Hendrix stated he would continue to work on the webpage and take responsibility for this Goal.

5. **Old Business**
There was none.

6. **Other Business From the Floor**
There was none.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

7. **Next Meeting – March 17, 2009**

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Figueroa, Recording Secretary