

HCOD Meeting Minutes for 8/10/17

The Houston Commission on Disabilities met on Thursday, July 13, 2017, at the Houston Metropolitan Multi Service Center (MMSC), 1475 West Gray, Houston, Texas 77019

Richard Petty, opening remarks- acknowledge Maria, angel, staffing the booth at the ability expo. He left with the understanding that they spoke to several people at the event. Sometimes he is not sure, but angel and Maria T. and MOPD staff, thank you for being there.

Roll Call was done by Lesa Jackson-Lazard, Secretary, at 4:00pm.

Public Comments done by Eddie R. Jessie, Vice chair.

Commissioner Toby Cole motion to approve Meeting Minutes for July 13, 2017, Commissioner Lesa Jackson-Lazard 2nd the motion to approve from last Month.

Commission Present: Roland Bienvenu, Lesa Jackson-Lazard, Maria Palacios, Michael McCulloch, Eddie R. Jessie, Richard Petty, Benigno Aceves, Frankie Sims, Asha Dhuka, Toby Cole, Tina Williams, Shelly Townsend,

Commission Absent: Karen Cunningham, Emmanuel Eziashi

MOPD, Division Manager: Maria Town

MOPD Present: Angel Ponce

Ex Officio: Matt Russell, ADA COORDINATOR

Legal Present: Tiffany Evans

Public Comments:

Audience: Carl Duncan, not teaming up but renting out the spaces fitness event, nutrition expo. Received a message from the Mayor, want Maria Town to come and speak and Tina Williams there. Love Hannah Walker for her help. Free event, booths motivate. Sept. 23rd, 2-6pm.

“Normal to Be Fit”, Expo & Education Day. They work with different individuals with Down Syndrome.

Commissioner Williams, has spent time helping others, and took on clients to help them. Good turnout of the event before over the years. Therapy in the water, she is a body builder. No matter where you are you can work out and the rest is up to you. We want to learn and talk about fitness, health, and this is an opportunity that we come together.

Audience: Jared Garret, research on adaptive abilities at University of Houston. They have wheelchair tennis. Traveling torment, and annual events. Cougar event in October, and they will spread awareness, and invite others to come to the event, people all over the state. People from different states, and they do fundraiser and work closely with the MMSC and adaptive sports. They can tire and tubes and other things.

Audience: Mary Hacks, disability news every Friday, moving to 8am, 90.1 KPFT.

Audience: Ann Maria Blackmore, the foundation Art of Capture, “Inclusion is Everything. They have been there for two years now. She lives in the creek, are, and they need funding. It is stopping them from going where they need to go. This population is housed alone, but want to keep her organization available. They want to engage with the police, grocery store, and other spaces.

Presentation:

Presentation from Texas Department of Transportation (Catherine McCreight, Planner - TxDOT – Houston District Office, (Juanita (Nita) Webber, TxDOT - ADA Compliance Program Administrator)

Richard, commission focus on sidewalks, streets that may effected the disability community. We have had metro to come and speak, Department of Public Works, the discuss assess issues. We want Patrick to join us a gain. Txdot have a role of helping us to understand the local planning committee. Mrs. Neda Weber, compliance, graduation of u of h, in finance and serving with a judge and for very companies. She has a son who is disable, and a dear friend who lose his sight. She is helping txdot.

Catherine McCreight, Senior Transportation Planner, 11 years, executive of a nonprofit. Accessibility Awareness, fulfilling our commitment to accessible transportation. They are celebrating 100 years. Only they are moving state roadways, and FM roads. The

neighborhood roads are taken care by the city. Several different projects listed in the booklet handout. Houston Galveston, programs.

The state set the standards for the applicable laws and regulations. bicycle pedestrian available for accommodations, and they would allow right of way and accommodations for the bicycle.

Their goals are.....if they took the curb they must fix that design to accommodate the disable community. Even redesign the driveway if needed. They receive funding to make improvements.

Working

Questions: Commissioner Cole, how do you determine who has the need? Do you reach out to the 411 and MOPD.

Catherine the call for selection criteria, based on needs, they do field visit, look at growth and the information that they gather. They did a study on 45 and 249 and seen mothers walking on the shoulder, and that was not safe. Local was at a low income, and they needed to help provide a bike path and sidewalks. Look at the needs.

She was the project manager on this study, and she spoke with police, city and they try to form committees and 311 would be good also.

Mrs. Weber, consultant was next in line to look at Houston, to determine which project is more urgent, and they are reinventing the transition plan, and they are having public comments. They will hold state meetings 2017 and 2018, and will invite us to those meeting.

They are advisors, they require a 30,60,90 plan review, and the traffic division oversee those projects. They have certain projects in place the tdr will come out to make sure it is compliance. Anything dealing with state funds. 25 district that cover all the district. Funds are reinburst, show the plans, they check before you get the funds.

MOPD Directors Report, Maria Town:

Good evening, echo thank all who came out to the ability expo, very well at the event. This month filled with the Committee, Harp. Month of July outreach 700 people reached with local groups. Ada celebration Ms. Wheel chair 8/25, Mrs. Kendra day, she loves pastry making. Bond making pass two November 7, 2017 to bonds on community centers, and the pension

bond mayor turner has been working on. Still working on retirement bonds for the employee, if not approved will loss over 200million dollars. We will receive an email on this situation.

Public works training in October, White Cane Safety Day. House for people august 27, on the regulation. State of Texas reached out to get things regulation. Seattle just begin a progress to end employees to employee

people with disability. One thing would be a resolution on to end minimum wages. Public hearing by the commission, help us to initiative the meeting.

Angel, MOPD Monthly Report;

July 4 ac units MOPD reached out to the inspector, and they installed the ac units, portable was taken, then actual units

Accessibility at his unit ramp, so MOPD help him fill out a dept of justice to make it easier with a damp install

2 regarding apartment assistance, 1 modification, 1 home repair, 1 side walk repair, 17 for sidewalks, 1 parking assessment, 650 people, 3 requesting legal aid, 3 drainages, 3 visible fire alarms, 2 sidewalks, MOPD help with them filling out application, citizens speak to them., then the city will send someone out.

Lot of people came by, need to volunteer, parking, housing issues, home repair he will be out next week speak to Amanda

Commissioner Aceves, Manager wanted to know how to work with someone with ADA.

Committee Updates:

Disability-Related Issues in Public Education – (Karen Cunningham, Chair)- No Update

Disability Unity and Pride Celebration - (Michael McCullough, Chair)-Planning coming along well, entertainment, food, children activity. We are in need of Volunteers, date of event September 30, at the MMSC. Jay Room will be for the children activities.

Commissioner Lesa Jackson-Lazard and Commissioner Richard Petty want to Volunteer.

Emergency Preparedness (Shelly Townsend, Chair)-No Update

Employment (Benigno Aceves, Chair)- Employment Committee host in January to start planning job ready work, shops for parents and children. Tentative date January 27, 2017, 8pm-9pm. We will have Monthly Planning Committee meeting.

White Can Safety Day, is schedule for October 19, 2017, 10th year Anniversary, Co Host MOPD.

HARP (Eddie Jessie, Chair)-Selection from application, final meeting will be announced.

Housing & Tenancy Issues (Lesa Jackson Lazard, Chair)-No Update

Marketing (Frankie Sims, Chair)-No Update

Commissioner Lesa Jackson-Lazard, website need to be updated with current Commissioners on the Board, list from 2013. Commissioner Sims will check with the person who does the input on the Facebook page.

Commissioner Aceves, will we receive the business cards again, and the t-shirts.

Commissioner Petty, the former chair had t-shirts, Commissioner Williams, started t-shirts and anyone who want to one let her know.

Metro/Transportation/Parking (Tina Williams, Chair)-transportation meeting very productive. Discuss how to get formative for the disable committee, sidewalks, signs for parks, they put ideals together.

Parks & Accessibility (Tina Williams, Chair)

Police Response to Persons with Disabilities (Emmanuel Arizona Eziashi, Chair)-No Updates

Strategic Planning (Toby Cole, Chair)- thank you Commissioner Petty on the Presentation, good to reach out and encourage a Community pass a resolution.

Metropolitan MSC Update (Chuck French / Hannah Walker)- Hannah gave update, Chuck had twin baby boys. Junior Hot Wheels, softball finals lose in Baltimore, but 2nd place in D.C. Ability Expo sports demo, annual Houston corporate mix it up meet new players. Pasadena Wide for Wheels", Saturday. Wheel chair tennis 8/26.

Commissioner Petty, The MMSC center has blossom, people are proud. TIRR new name, 'TIRR Houston Texans'.

ADA Update (Matt Russell, COH ADA Coordinator)-No Update

Legal Ms. Evans: No Update

Commissioners Comments:

The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Cole and 2nd by Commissioner Townsend

The HCOD meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.

Minutes submitted by Lesa Jackson-Lazard (lesajackosn2010@yahoo.com) 281-690-9912