

## Minutes

### **Minneapolis Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities March 21, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by Ken Rodgers at 4:35pm. Members, staff and guests introduced themselves. Committee has quorum with 8 of its 15 members present.

**Members Present:** Michael Foster, Martha Hage, Donna Hemp, Omar Magana, Ken Rodgers, Amanda Tempel, and Keith Swanson.

**Members Absent:** Tracy Reid

**Members Excused:** Dorothy Balen, Joan Willshire.

**Guests:** Council Member Hofstede, Ward 3; Monique Hammond.

**Staff Present:** Ahmed Muhumud and Cheyenne Erickson, NCR; Toby Broadrick, MPRB; Nick Van Gunst and Greg Schroeder, Public Works.

#### Approval of March 21, 2012 Agenda

Mandy Tempel moved to accept the agenda with the removal of Dorothy Balen from the agenda, Keith Swanson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all approved.

#### Approval of January 18, 2012 Minutes

Donna Hemp moved to accept the minutes, Keith Swanson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all approved.

#### Ward 3 Update, Council Member Diane Hofstede

Council Member Hofstede reviewed her ward boundaries which include neighborhoods in North, Northeast and Southeast Minneapolis. The annual 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Neighborhoodfest will be held on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at the Nicollet Island Pavilion, the cost is free. There will be bands, booths, workshops and food. Council Member Hofstede is also greatly involved in the ongoing efforts around the Mississippi riverfront and continues to hold monthly CARE meetings.

CM Hofstede is also involved in the Southeast Minneapolis University District Alliance; the purpose of the alliance is to work collaboratively with all partners to improve livability in the area.

**A new initiative that CM Hofstede is working on is aging in Place. She is working in partnership with CM Reich, the NE Community and Catholic Eldercare. CM Hofstede would like the support of the Committee and would like to invite everyone to the Aging in Place reception on Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at the St. Anthony Eldercare.**

**Member Comments:**

- **The MACOPD has been talking about this for about 6-7 years, looking for some kind of revolving loan fund to make homes more accessible, for owners and their guests. There is no system in place to do that.**
- **Any housing that the City puts financial support in should be adaptable/accessible.**
- **The Stone Arch Festival is not very accessible. The area lacks curb cuts and the brick streets and sidewalks make it hard to get around. The East Hennepin Sidewalk café's also make it hard to get around in that area, some sidewalks are also deteriorating.**
- **Parade season also makes it difficult to get around; some queue-ups block the curb cuts.**
- **Art-a-Whirl also is an issue, there are concerns with access to the buildings, some are not accessible.**
- **There needs to be resolution to the council reception area, it is an ADA violation and something needs to be done.**
- **The committee wants to be at the table for planning of the Vikings Stadium to ensure of the accessibility.**
- **Is there any new construction in the ward?**
  - **Yes, the St. Anthony Main silos are getting upgrades; Sheridan Park was opened as well as planning for the former site of Sherrer Brothers Lumber.**
- **What is happening with Superior Plating?**
  - **The business is now in bankruptcy. The location is a superfund site; there were 50 years of toxins used at the business. The building/property will be sold to an interested developer who is working with the MPCA to monitor pollutants. The MPCA is holding a meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss that site as well as Northern Metals, who have requested a reduction in admission standards. The City entered a motion for lack of support of the lowered standards; the full City Council supported that motion.**

### **Greg Schroeder, Public Works**

**Greg is the Title II ADA liaison in Public Works; he is currently working on a self-evaluation project and the ADA transition plan. On Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> the council will approve money to review 16-18,000 corners for the self-evaluation plan from May through Labor Day, 2012. The plan is to hire interns to do the work. This year most of the work will be done using iPads, this way they will be able to take lots of measurements and the system will be updated automatically when there is Wi-Fi available.**

**In addition functionality of the ramps will also be measured; they will be looking if it meets standards as well as if it functions properly.**

**The transition plan is moving along well, in it includes the self-evaluation plan; the plan is to bring the transition plan to Council in April. Public Works is looking for public input, but is torn on how to proceed, Hennepin County held two meetings with little attendance and MNDOT didn't do public input either. Should Public Works send information to Neighborhood Organizations to get local input as well as this committee?**

#### **Member Comments:**

- Noticed that a curb cut near the Cowles center has buckled, if the grade gets measured it would be fine, but the buckle will still be there and make the corner inaccessible.**
- MNDOT created an advisory group that address the transition plan and had guidance throughout the process.**
- It's a good idea to work with Neighborhood Organizations to get input on the plan.**

### **Nick Van Gunst, Public Works**

**Nick reviewed the list of questions with his answers submitted by the committee regarding APS signals. The plan is to finish looking at all of the remaining signals by the mid to end of July, then the signals can be prioritized. There is a tool that is used to rank the signals, if a certain signal receives a score of 40 or more, they get put as a priority, if they get less than 40 they get put on a list.**

#### **Member Comments:**

- How do you meet the score of 40?
  - There were 28.****

- How do you meet the score of 40?
  - The criteria looks at ramps, crosswalks, transportation in the area, timing of the crosswalks, the number of schools or hospitals in the area, major pedestrian areas, etc.
- Talking crosswalks are needed on Nicollet Mall.
- How can we get a transit study done, what is it going to take?
- How does Public Works allocate money to fit the needs of the people who need them?
- What do we have to do to get a better prioritization formula?
  - Work with the City Council, address it politically.
- The problem with the tool is that it's not being applied properly. An example is Central Avenue; every other city that Central Avenue runs along has the APS signals install, except Minneapolis.
- This issue keeps coming up, with no results, could this be solved through a lawsuit?
- How do we request APS signals be installed?
  - Call 311.
- Could a forum/discussion on the need for APS signals be held? It could be a larger effort involving the Senior Citizen Advisory Council, the Pedestrian Advisory Council, the Transition plan and the NCR Department.
- Can an ADA Title II complaint be submitted?
  - It is an issue, but it may not be illegal.

**Neighborhood and Community Relations Update, Ahmed Muhumed, NCR**

Ahmed met with Phil Schliesman from business licensing who works with block permits/special events for the City. They have a special review committee that reviews all special event licenses; this would include art fairs and neighborhood festivals. They do look for accessibility issues and try to get them straightened out before the event. They also randomly inspect events and issue citations on the spot, any violation must be corrected immediately or the event will be shut down. Ahmed is looking to join the special events group. 60% of violations are reported through the Council Offices, 35% are reported through City Staff and the rest are reported through 311.

**Motion:**

Michael Foster moved to adopt the grievance form, Omar Magana 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all approved.

Donna Hemp moved to adopt the grievance policy, Michael Foster 2nd the motion, all approved.

**Minneapolis Park and Recreation, Toby Broadrick**

Powderhorn Park had accessible issues 3 years ago; they had power doors that were not ADA accessible. Elections offices have federal funds to put electric doors on election sites, 8 parks received these electric doors through the funds.

Last Saturday, Windom south held a wearing of the green party, good turnout with 79 guests. It was a collaborative event and they are very much happy with the turn out. Another event, Welcome to Summer Ice Cream Social will be held at Windom South on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 6:34pm.

Respectively submitted by Cheyenne Erickson.

Next meeting: April 18 2012 - 132 City Hall.

**Action List:**

- Access Committee will review neighborhood festivals.
- Access Committee will contact the Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association regarding the 2012 Art-A-Whirl event and creating better access.
- Create an FAQ sheet for 311 CSA's to easily identify ADA issues.
- Create a communication plan with a timeline to notify public that ADA complaint forms are available.
- Michael Foster, Chair of the Access Committee will contact Dan Callaghan regarding the possible Trader Joes along Lyndale Avenue.
- Provide a list of questions/best practices to CM Lilligren regarding the opposition of the use of salt to clear ice in the winter.