

## Minutes

### **Minneapolis Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities November 28, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by Ken Rodgers at 4:36pm. Members, staff and guests introduced themselves. Committee has quorum with 9 of its 13 members present.

**Members Present:** Ken Rodgers, Michael Foster, Martha Hage, Omar Magana, Amanda Tempel, Donna Hemp, Harvey Hoffman, Terri Krake and Joan Willshire.

**Members Absent:**

**Members Excused:** Keith Swanson, Steve Oglesbee, Heather Leide and Dorothy Balen.

**Guests:** Casey Carl, Minneapolis City Clerk, Grace Wachlarowicz Assistant City Clerk and Anna Flintoft

**Staff Present:** Cheyenne Erickson and Ahmed Muhumud, NCR; Toby Broadrick, Minneapolis Parks.

#### Approval of November 28, 2012 Agenda

Donna Hemp moved to accept the agenda, Michael Foster 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all approved.

#### Approval of September, 2012 Minutes

Joan Willshire moved to accept the minutes, Michael Foster 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all approved.

#### Elections Update, Casey Carl, Minneapolis City Clerk

The 2012 Presidential election was a historical election in the City of Minneapolis with a voter turnout rate of 81%. In addition 1 in 4 voters who voted on November 6<sup>th</sup> registered the same day. There were a minimum of election judges at each polling place and 50 extra judges were placed at polling places to help with language needs or at polling places with a large turnout.

This year some polling places experienced extreme wait times up to 1-2 hours. The wait times were the same in 2008, however, the

weather was much nicer, not rainy and cold like this year. Overall with the success of the voter turnout came with some challenges. Now work will begin on what went well and what needs to change in the future.

The Clerk's Office will be presenting a report of the 2012 Election to the City Council's Election Committee on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012.

Additionally there are three things that the Elections office is looking to do for future elections and voting:

1. Early Voting
2. E-poll Books
3. Voting Centers

#### **Member Comments:**

- **Did you receive any reports of people falling off the Rolls?**
  - **Yes, we did receive reports from about 10-15 precincts that experienced that. Most of those polls that experience this were in the precincts that were involved with the recent redistricting. Two postal verifications were sent out and if you didn't confirm you lived there, you would have to re-register when you arrived at the polls.**
- **Did any polls experience technical problems, one poll the tabulator failed to function. What happens then?**
  - **There is a slot beneath the tabulator which ballots would be deposited and later scanned by election judges.**
- **When the City is able to get new equipment, would it meet access requirements before the City could purchase it?**
  - **It would have to meet Federal State requirements. The county purchases the equipment and the City pays for the maintenance.**
- **The vote tabulator should still be able to give verification that a ballot has been received without an election judge there.**
  - **Currently there is no tabulator equipped with voice capabilities.**
- **There was an issue with the auto mark at City View School. The Election Judge didn't have the proper training and the number on the machine they called was no use.**
- **The line to get into the Spanish immersion school went upstairs there were so many people. The elections judges helped find a different way in for people in wheelchairs, but the entrance needs to change.**

- **What is the formula used to determine polling places? In precinct 3-4 there was a 2 ½ hour wait and found out that the holdup was same day registration.**
  - **There is no perfect scenario for determining polling places. Each precinct is different in terms of the facilities available. Some areas cause us to be severely challenged.**
- **Do you have the statistics on the number of disabled voters?**
  - **The Secretary of the State office keeps the demographics on voters. They do not take into account disabilities and it is not a question checked with exit voting.**

**Actions:**

- **Have the Executive Committee determine if there is need for an Election Committee of the MACOPD.**

**Motions:**

- **Mandy Tempel moved that the Executive Committee will draft a letter to relay basic information in the form of a letter to be created and adopted by the Executive Committee and signed by the Chair prior to the next MACOPD meeting, Terri Krake 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all approved.**
- **Mandy Tempel moved that this committee form a subcommittee to review specific priorities for the platform and the legislative agenda, Joan Willshire 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all approved.**

**Nicollet-Central Transit Alternatives Study, Anna Flintoft**

**The Nicollet-Central Transit Alternatives Project will identify a preferred transit enhancement which could serve as a first phase of a longer-range vision for transit service throughout the 9.2-mile corridor, which extends from the 46th Street/I-35W Transit Station and Nicollet Avenue on the south, through Nicollet Mall in downtown Minneapolis, and to the Columbia Heights Transit Center on the north via Central Avenue. The Project will determine the benefits, costs and impacts of implementing a variety of transit modes and service types, including streetcar and enhanced bus options, to identify a locally preferred alternative for inclusion in the Metropolitan Council's 2030 Transportation Policy Plan.**

**During a one-year process, the project will:**

- **Identify a series of performance measures including mobility needs and land use/economic development goals to be supported by the preferred alternative**

- Compare different transit modes and service alternatives (including streetcar and enhanced bus operations) and alignment termini to identify the best alternative for the corridor
- Provide a transparent and inclusive public engagement process that will involve all stakeholders in the decision making process
- Facilitate a local decision making process that identifies a locally preferred alternative that can attract federal transit funds.

**Member comments:**

- How will this project be funded?
  - Not sure as of yet, we do know that other cities have gotten federal funding for street car lines. The City is going through the process to be eligible and would have to be able to match at a local level. The cost would be around \$100-200 Million.
- Atlanta has digital information strips in their subway system. It was a very useful and important visual aspect to inform riders of the next stop.
- Thank you for addressing the access concerns from the beginning.

**Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board, Toby Broderick**

There are two people who can permit events in the City of Minneapolis. One City of Minneapolis employee and one Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board employee, however, only the City can write tickets.

The next step would be to get the committees feedback on the documents. The City and Park staff are eager to see the suggestions.

**Member Comments:**

- The Document should go to the Access Committee.

**Neighborhood & Community Relations Department, Ahmed Muhumud**

The NCR Department is moving to a new office location at the Crown Roller Mill, located at 105 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. December 19<sup>th</sup> is the anticipated move date for the department.

Hennepin County Library offers an At Home Library service that provides books and other materials to patrons who have barriers in getting to the library. The service is provided to residents who cannot visit a library due to illness, disability, or visual impairment. At Home

is a free service to residents of Hennepin County. If the committee would like to learn more about this program, Staff from Hennepin County Libraries is willing to attend a committee meeting to discuss the program in more detail.

The City is developing a snow shoveling program to help residents who may have a difficult time getting their sidewalks shoveled. The program will get residents who may need help shoveling their walk to sign up for the program and then will recruit volunteers to shovel the public sidewalk for the resident.

On November 20, 2012 the NRP Policy Board authorized distribution of the Proposed Clarification to the CPP Grievance Policy for neighborhood organizations for a 45 day review period. Under the proposed clarification, when an ADA-related grievance made to and acted on by a neighborhood organization is appealed to the NCR Department the appeal will be forwarded to the City of Minneapolis Civil Rights Department. The City's Civil Rights Department has the capacity and the legal expertise to handle these types of grievance procedures. This streamlines ADA grievances by designating one City department to address all ADA related grievances.

**Member comments:**

- What is the cost or time frame of the move?
  - We don't currently have a dollar figure for the move.

**Other Committee Updates:**

**Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) Update:**

Donna Hemp informed the committee of the discussion had at the November PAC meeting. There was a tazing of a man on Nicollet mall by police for standing in the wrong area waiting for the bus. More information can be found on the PAC meeting blog.

**ADA Transition Group Update:**

Met earlier in the week to set up ground rules for process for a scheduled review of the documents, there will be action items that come to the December and January meetings.

There is a proposal to cut video relay services and use smartphones instead. This is a large problem for the deaf/hard of hearing

community because of how widely the video relay services are used. Harvey will find the contact information for the comment period.

**Access Committee:**

Would the Access Committee like to go to the Union Restaurant for their meeting next week? Martha will contact the Union to invite the committee. It will also be Martha's last meeting as Co-chair.

Meeting adjourned at 6:36pm.

Respectively submitted by Cheyenne Erickson.

Next meeting: December 19, 2012 – 333 City Hall.

**Action List:**

- Ahmed Muhumud will provide quarterly reports on ADA Title II complaints or requests for accommodation to the committee.
- 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.
- Cheyenne Erickson will work with Ken regarding the 311 Reports.
- Review other entities to see how they deal with their grievances.
- Hold a Walking tour of the BF Nelson Park in the spring for committee members.
- Ahmed Muhumud will review other entities to see how they deal with grievances.