

**CITY OF GLENDALE
COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
PUBLIC MEETING
GLENDALE MAIN LIBRARY – BOARD ROOM, 2ND FLOOR
5959 W. BROWN STREET
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, May 17, 2011
6:00 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mounib Shaaban, Chair
Gary Charlson
Laura Hirsch
Karin Kellas
John Fallucca
Terry Aramian
Raymond Yaeggi
Robert Steiger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Shirley Galvez, Vice Chair
Joan Brainard Pinson
Adonis Deniz, Sr.

STAFF PRESENT: Gilbert Lopez, Revitalization Administrator
Minerva Madrid, Revitalization Secretary
Diana Figueroa, Recording Secretary

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Shaaban called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Chairperson Shaaban took roll call and noted members who were present and those absent.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2011

Chairperson Shaaban stated due to an oversight the minutes were not distributed. He suggested this item be continued to next month's meeting. He called for a motion.

Commissioner Aramian made a motion to continue this item to the meeting of June 21, 2011. Commissioner Yaeggi seconded the motion, was passed unanimously.

IV. Business from the Floor

There was no business from the floor.

V. Appreciation Plaque Presentation – Sylvia Charters

Chairperson Shaaban called on Ms. Sylvia Charters. The Commission presented a plaque of appreciation and a gift certificate to thank Ms. Charters for all of service as the city staff liaison to the Commission. Ms. Charters thanked the Commission and praised them for all of their hard work and dedication.

VI. 2010 Annual Report:

Chairperson Shaaban stated the 2010 Annual Report had been distributed to the Commission and he called for a motion.

2010 Annual Report
Commission on Persons with Disabilities

The City of Glendale's Commission on Persons with Disabilities is pleased to submit the Commission's 2010 Annual Report. The report includes our accomplishments and recommendations for the Council's consideration.

Resignations/Appointments: Commissioner Shirley Galvez was designated Vice Chairperson. Commissioners Danielle Bohall and Linda Yager resigned in 2010. New appointments in the commission during 2010 included Terry Aramian, Laura Hirsch, Karin Kellas and Robert Steiger. The commission is authorized eleven members and has two vacancies.

PROGRESS ON THE SIX 2010 GOALS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. TO IMPROVE HANDICAPPED PARKING IN THE AREAS OF AVAILABILITY AND ENFORCEMENT.

Recommendations

- The CPWD recommended to the City Council in 2009 to consider an increase in the fines illegal parking in handicapped spaces. The commission continues to support an increase in the fines. This decision is still pending with the City Council.
- The CPWD would like to recommend that the Commission work with the Police Department, Marketing Department and Code Compliance in order to educate the

public on who is to be parking in the handicapped spaces. The Commission recommends:

1. During the holiday season one or two Commission members walk around the parking lot of Arrowhead Mall advising the Police Officer(s) of any possible handicapped parking violations.
2. Public Service Announcements through Channel 11
3. Public awareness notifications through Council constituent communications methods
4. Public awareness notifications included with utility billings

2. DEVELOP PARAMETERS FOR THE MINI-GRANT PROGRAM AND DETERMINE FUNDING.

(Per the 2009 Annual Report the mini-grant program was voted unanimously to be Discontinued)

2. DEVELOP A COMMUNICATION STRATEGY WITH COUNCIL AND PARTNERS.

Recommendations

- The commission recommends the Council provide direction to the city's marketing department to facilitate the PAS and public awareness goals as established in **Item 1** of this report.

3. ESTABLISHING A PRESENCE THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY (OUTREACH) PUBLICITY.

Accomplishments

- The commissioners made phone calls to HOA Board Members in their respective districts to introduce themselves and make them aware of the Commission. They were invited to attend a Commission meeting.
- The Commission manned a table at the VRATE (Vision Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology) Expo with a variety of information pertaining to persons with disabilities including a flyer with the Commission's website information.
- The Commission invited a guest speaker from ABIL (Arizona Bridge to Independent Living). Through this speaker the Commission learned what ABIL has to offer.

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5. CONTINUE TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC AND BUSINESSES ABOUT ACCESSIBILITY.

Accomplishments

- The election polling sites were inspected by Commission to ensure that these sites were wheel chair accessible.
- Commission wrote a letter to the Banner Thunderbird Hospital to make them aware of the need to improve accessibility to a restroom in the Emergency Room. The hospital responded positively and advised that although they were in compliance with the ADA laws, they immediately made the changes as requested to improve the accessibility for the for disabled persons.
- It was brought to the attention of the Commission that there was an accessibility problem to reach the button used to change the light and cross the street at the corner of 47th Ave. and Olive, due to the ground surrounding the light switch being rocky. The Commission contacted the appropriate City department and within two weeks the issue was resolved.

6. DEVELOP A FAQ WEB PAGE.

Accomplishments

- The FAQ page was added and along with the help of the City's Webmasters, the Commission added several new items to the PWD website including: HOW TO ENLARGE THE FONT for the visually impaired; DID YOU KNOW?, a series of interesting and informative topics related to PWD and ADA; QUICK LINK BUTTONS; LIST OF GUEST SPEAKERS; and a UPCOMING EVENTS feature.

- The Commissions' webpage:
(<http://www.glendaleaz.com/boardsandcommissions/CommissiononPersonswithDisabilities.cfm>)
has received **4,623** visits in **2010**.

Respectfully submitted,

Commission on Persons with Disabilities*

Commissioner Hirsch made a motion to approve the 2010 Annual Report as written. Commissioner Yaeggi seconded the motion, was passed unanimously.

VII. Westgate Handicapped Parking Issues:

Chairperson Shaaban asked for an update.

Mr. Lopez updated the Commission and stated that he contacted Deputy City Manager, Cathy Gorham. He said Ms. Gorham had contacted the arena staff and they ensured her the area would be better policed than it had been in the past. He said if there is a parking violation, the police will be contacted. In addition, the groups that attend "Bike Night" will be notified and asked to inform the participants of the parking violations taking place. Also, the employees of Westgate will also be educated.

Commissioner Yaeggi stated that it was unfortunate that this issue could not have been addressed previously. He indicated he had also contacted Westgate staff but was provided no results. He said after almost two years of complaining these issues have yet to be addressed.

Chairperson Shaaban stated there is a real issue when there are two events running simultaneously.

Chairperson Shaaban noted the Commission requested the handicapped parking violation fees be increased. The Commission held a brief discussion and clarified the issue is the lack of manpower to enforce and issue citations. Mr. Lopez stated he would check into this matter and the status of the Commission's concern.

Commissioner Steiger stated people just need to be educated on the matter.

VIII. Intersection of 47th Avenue East & West of Olive Avenue

Staff will retake pictures of the correct angle of the intersection and redistribute to the Commission for review.

IX. Follow-up on Crosswalk at 59th Avenue & Evergreen

Staff distributed colored handouts of these intersections noted above to point out the upgrades that have been made. These include pouring concrete which will allow those in wheelchairs to be able to access the cross walk signal at 47th and Olive Avenues and striping the crosswalk and the additional signs at 59th and Evergreen.

Commissioner Hirsch stated she would like to add the before and after pictures of these areas to the Disabilities' webpage to show the accomplishments of the Commission.

X. Eyes of Glendale, Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Staff distributed copies of the Eyes of Glendale, a newsletter which is published approximately four times a year. Ms. Carol Bollick is the contact.

XI. Member Updates

Commissioner Deniz will provide an update at the next meeting regarding the event held on Saturday, April 12, 2011, as he is not in attendance this evening.

Commissioner Kellas noted that Valley Metro bus drivers participate in a two hour training session on how to secure passengers who are in wheelchairs.

Commissioner Kellas questioned if the bus stops along 59th avenue, north passed Union Hills Drive were going to be paved. Mr. Lopez stated he would check into this matter and provide the Commission with feedback.

Chairperson Shaaban asked Mr. Lopez for any advice on how to share material to help to educate people. He asked if he had any new ideas that hadn't been discussed previously.

XI. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting concluded at 6:54pm. The next meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary
Diana Figueroa