

**City of Glendale
Commission on Persons with Disabilities
Glendale Main Library - 1st Floor Large Meeting Room
5959 W. Brown Street**

**Tuesday, June 16, 2015
6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Lesser called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00pm.

II. Roll Call

Chairperson Lesser stated all Commissioners were present. Present was Commissioners LeGendre, Pirooz, Cox, Hoerner, Vice Chairperson Kumar, and Chairperson Lesser.

III. Approval of Minutes – March 17, 2015

Chairperson Lesser called for a motion regarding the minutes of March 17, 2015. Vice Chairperson Kumar made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Pirooz seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

IV. Business from the Floor

Chairperson Lesser called for any Business from the Floor. There was none.

V. Elsie McCarthy “Come to Your Senses” Event

Chairperson Lesser called for staff's presentation on this item. Mr. Erik Strunk stated the Commission has been working to re-purpose certain amenities in the Elsie McCarthy Sensory Garden so as to further benefit the disabled community in Glendale. He said proposed was the planting of different trees with different scents, converting some of the existing water features that no longer function mainly due to vandalism to planter-type features, and to develop a marketing plan to ensure greater visibility of the park. Mr. Strunk asked the Commission to finalize a date for a public event in October 2015 that would unveil the new improvements and engage the disabled community as well as the general community.

Commissioner Cox stated the event could be advertised in the Manistee Ranch newsletter, the subdivision located adjacent to the Sensory Garden.

Vice Chairperson Kumar would like a brochure that would include a listing of resources helpful for the disabled community. She stated she is interested in providing the disabled community information and resources for them rather than provide information regarding only the Commission. She felt that would be more beneficial.

Mr. Strunk stated that as the event gets closer, press releases and possibly advertising in homeowners associations' newsletters could take place. Vice Chairperson Kumar suggested the information be included in the utility statements. Mr. Strunk added this could be included on social media such as the city's website, the city's Facebook page, etc. Chairperson Lesser said Craig's List is also a venue to advertise this event.

Vice Chairperson Kumar suggested some light refreshments at the event and possibly get sponsorships with nearby restaurants.

After a brief discussion, the Commission agreed to hold the unveiling event on Saturday, October 24, 2015, from 10am to noon.

VI. Sponsorship of Open House

Chairperson Lesser called for the presentation of this item. Mr. Erik Strunk said as part of its FY15-16 work plan, the Commission is interested in planning and implementing an open house/town hall type fair for persons with disabilities in Glendale. Mr. Strunk said the purpose of this item is to discuss possible dates, the content of such a town hall and assignments.

The Commission agreed this item, Sponsorship of Open House, should be discussed at a future meeting or at the August Retreat.

VII. Vote to Vacate Summer Commission Meeting

Chairperson Lesser polled the Commission regarding vacating the July meeting.

Vice Chairperson Kumar made a motion to vacate the July 2015 meeting. Commissioner Pirooz seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

VIII. Selection of Retreat Date

Chairperson Lesser asked the Commission to discuss and select a date the Commission could meet to hold a Retreat rather than the regular monthly meeting.

The Commission wished to discuss how they can better market the Disabilities Commission and how they can serve the public.

Vice Chairperson Kumar wished to discuss an online comment/question form where the community could receive information. Chairperson Lesser questioned who would respond to the online comments and questions.

Commissioner Cox suggested the Commission might have space in The Glendale Star to publish an article providing suggestions regarding challenges the disabled community faces. This could occur monthly or quarterly.

The topics of discussion at the Retreat will be the Open House, the Website/Webpage and how to better market the Commission, and how to reach out to the community and find out their needs.

The Commission selected Saturday, August 22 from 8am to 12pm at the Fruit Packing Shed for the location of the Retreat.

IX. Staff Updates

Chairperson Lesser welcomed the new Commissioner, Gary Cox. He provided some background information and stated he was happy to be part of the Commission.

Mr. Erik Strunk distributed an image of the recently approved disabilities logo, which the City of Glendale has implemented use of at some of its parks. Fourteen parks will include the new logo as their parking lots are being slurried and restriped. He added the metal signs indicated violation fees located at disabled parking spaces would be replaced as needed.

X. Commission Comments

Chairperson Lesser called for Comments from the Commission.

Commissioner LeGendre asked if the “chirping” indicating it is safe to cross the street might be installed at the intersection of 59th Avenue, Glendale Avenue, and Grand Avenue. He believes the indicator at 59th Avenue and Glenn has been updated and now includes the “chirping” sound. Mr. Strunk indicated he would research and provided feedback as to who has rights to the 59th Avenue, Glendale Avenue, and Grand Avenue intersection.

XI. Adjournment

Commissioner LeGendre made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairperson Kumar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:42pm.