

**City of Glendale
Commission on Persons with Disabilities
Regular Meeting**

MINUTES

**Glendale Main Library
5959 West Brown Street, Glendale, Arizona
Tuesday, June 17, 2014
6:00pm**

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Hirsch called the meeting to order at approximately 6:01pm.

II. Roll Call

Chairperson Hirsch, Vice Chairperson Fallucca, and Commissioners Lesser, Kumar, LeGendre, Hoerner, and Mander were present. Staff in attendance was Erik Strunk, Executive Director, and Diana Figueroa, Recording Secretary.

III. Approval of Minutes – May 20, 2014 Regular Meeting

Chairperson Hirsch asked for a motion to approve the minutes. She asked for any corrections or additions from the Commission. There were none.

Commissioner Lesser made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of the May 20, 2014 as written. Commissioner Mander seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously, 7 to 0.

IV. Business from the Floor

Chairperson Hirsch called for Business from the Floor. There was none.

V. Presentation on Aspera and Treasure House

Mr. Erik Strunk introduced Ms. Veronica Ragland, Executive Director of One Step Beyond, and new board member for Treasure House, and Ms. Jesse Jo Warner, Programming Coordinator for Treasure House. Ms. Ragland provided some information to the Commission regarding One Step Beyond. She explained how her facility would be interacting with residents from the Treasure House facility. Ms. Ragland said they have two locations with another opening in July in the city of Surprise. She explained some of the programs offered such as a culinary arts program and other programs offered. She added all those in the program are developmentally disabled and this facility provides many great opportunities for them.

Ms. Jesse Jo Warner provided information about how affiliation with the proposed Treasure House, which will be located on property at the northwest corner of the Loop 101 and 75th Avenue. She described how many parents have difficulty finding a facility or residence for their child or children. She said this particular facility would house and help develop young adult children with developmental disabilities. The facility is being constructed with the belief that all persons regardless of ability

have a purpose and calling in their lives. Treasure House will provide a safe and secure environment for its residents and working in collaboration with One Step Beyond, the residents will have opportunities to learn and participate in the programs they offer.

Ms. Ragland said they are looking for guidance in working with city departments regarding permits to operate and they are looking for opportunities for their residents to participate in many of the events that take place in Glendale.

Commissioner LeGendre asked about the age limit. Ms. Warner said they would begin with 19 through 35 years of age when they open operation with hopes of allowing the residents to 'age in place'. He asked how many residents would be housed at Treasure House. Ms. Warner stated 24 persons with disabilities would be accommodated. She described many studio apartments with a lot of community spaces for the residents to gather.

Chairperson Hirsch asked when Treasure House was expected to open. Ms. Warner said the spring of 2016.

The Commission thanked them for their valuable information.

VI. Review of Draft Annual Report

Chairperson Hirsch introduced this item and asked for input from the Commissioners. Some Commissioners had not had the opportunity to review the Report.

Chairperson Hirsch said on page 2, she said the Commission agreed to participate with the Partners 'N Parks program; however, she said she did not participate in the Aspera Groundbreaking as indicated in the Report.

After some discussion, the Commission agreed to allow Chairperson Hirsch to gather comments and provide them to the City.

Commissioner Lesser made a motion for the Commission to approve the Chairperson to review and provide comments to staff regarding the Annual Report. Commissioner Mander seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously, with a vote of 7 to 0.

Commissioner Kumar said next year each commissioner should attend two to three functions a year in order to learn more about the disabled community and their needs and concerns. The Commission agreed. The Commission's responsibility would be to then assist in resolving those concerns or issues, which they discovered.

Vice Chairperson Fallucca said more recognition of the Commission is needed and felt this could be accomplished through outreach.

Commissioner LeGendre would like to distribute information regarding Glendale's adaptive programs to the disabled community of the city.

Commissioner LeGendre said there are many citizens who participate in the Special Olympics. The Commission discussed how they could help or what could they provide to assist the Special Olympics. Mr. Strunk said there was an Intergovernmental Agreement a few years ago and he offered to distribute it to the Commission for their information.

Chairperson Hirsch said the Special Olympics representatives indicated they were in need of transportation. She said the need has been identified.

Vice Chairperson Fallucca asked how this would relate to the Work Program, as the Commission is an advisory committee to the City Council. The Commission agreed they are not a group of volunteers but an advisory group representing the disabled community.

Mr. Strunk agreed that city staff could return occasionally before the Commission with updates regarding issues or items, which had been previously discussed. This may assist in keeping the Commission informed.

Mr. Strunk said he gathered the following should be included:

Participate in events to learn more about the disabled community. Commit to participating in at least two or more events each year.

Pursue Sensory Garden Project.

Staff to provide updates on prior issues.

Mr. Strunk said staff will provide a revised copy for the Commission's information.

VII. Discussion on New Policy for Service Animals

Mr. Strunk indicated that earlier this year the Commission had the opportunity to review and comment on a draft department policy for service animals. The Attorney's Office reviewed the policy and staff is now seeking final review and approval by the Commission.

Chairperson Hirsch asked for a motion.

Commissioner Mander made a motion to approve the Service Animal Policy. Commissioner Hoerner seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously with a vote of 7 to 0.

VIII. Vote to Vacate July and August 2014 Meetings

Commissioner Lesser made a motion to vacate the July and August 2014 meetings. Commissioner Mander seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously with a vote of 7 to 0.

XI. Staff Updates

Chairperson Hirsch called for Staff Updates. There were none.

X. Commission Comments & Suggestions

Chairperson Hirsch commented on the possibility of having the Commission inspect any new polling sites, if any, at the upcoming election. She will keep the Commission informed.

Commissioner Lesser will not be present at the September 2014 meeting.

XII. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

The next regular meeting is Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at 6:00pm in the Main Library, Large Conference Room.