

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

MEETING MINUTES

**Main Library, 1st Floor Meeting Room
5959 West Brown Street, Glendale, Arizona 85302
Tuesday, September 17, 2013
6:00pm**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hirsch at approximately 6:00pm.

II. Roll Call

Chairperson Hirsch, Vice Chairperson Fallucca, and Commissioners Lesser, Hoerner, and Kumar (arrived at 6:02pm) Commissioner Mander was absent. Staff in attendance was Lori Bye, Parks and Recreation, and Diana Figueroa, Recording Secretary.

III. Approval of Minutes – August 20, 2013 Regular Meeting

Chairperson Hirsch asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Commissioner Lesser made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of the August 20, 2013 meeting as written. Commissioner Hoerner seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously, 4 to 0.

IV. Business from the Floor

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

V. National Preparedness Month

Since the tragic events of September 11, 2001, America has recognized September as National Preparedness Month to remind Americans of the importance to take steps to prepare for emergencies. The Glendale Citizen Corps will presented critical emergency preparedness information and materials in meeting their “Whole community Approach to Emergency Preparedness” mission by beginning with existing leaders who represent all six City Districts. Ms. Opal Evans with the Glendale Citizen Corps made a presentation to the Board beginning with a video on YouTube.com.

Ms. Evans reviewed past tragedies throughout the county. She reviewed incidents that have occurred in Glendale alone.

She said Glendale Citizen Corps or GCC began after President Bush began the Citizen Corps. She reviewed the Mission and the functions of GCC. Ms. Evans suggested everyone to be informed. She said to get trained before a disaster and learn how you will know there is an impending event. She suggested a plan is made for the family to execute in the event of a disaster and to build a disaster kit, which is a

collection of basic household items. Lastly, she suggested to the Commission they get involved and participate in programs and activities, which will make their families, homes and community safer from risk and threats.

The Commission thanked Ms. Evans for her time and the presentation.

VI. Civic Center Presentation

This item was informational. Ms. Lori Bye introduced Mr. Mario Rochin, Civic Center Manager, and Ms. Julie Watters, Interim Executive Communications Director, who presented information regarding the recently installed FM System at the Civic Center.

Ms. Watters explained previously the Civic Center was to be equipped with an induction loop system, but after further research staff concluded that type of system was not compatible with the multi-purpose configuration of the facility. So management agreed the FM System was preferred.

Mr. Rochin discussed how the FM System uses hidden wireless antennas incorporated into the ceiling that transmit to small handheld receivers so the sound from the room goes directly into hearing aids or ears. He said this technology allows guests to wear a neck loop, an ear hook, or small set of headphones to receive the signal.

Mr. Rochin displayed each device and handed them to the Commission. He added that although other venues charge for this service, the Glendale Civic Center is offering this service free or charge to its guests and visitors.

A brief YouTube video produced by the city's TV station, Glendale 11, was shown to the Commission featuring Ms. Michele Michaels, Hard of Hearing Specialist for the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing, as she tested the new system. She stated the Commission is very happy the city is providing this service

The Commission thanked Ms. Watters and Mr. Rochin for their update.

VII. Elsie McCarthy Sensory Garden

The Commission reviewed the materials regarding this project in regards to the Partners N' Parks program for the Garden. The Commission also discussed fund raising possibilities.

The Commission made suggestions of which groups, agencies, and persons to be invited to the event. It was suggested that invitations be sent to the Special Olympics, Valley Center of the Deaf, Arizona School for the Blind and Deaf, ABIL, and citizens who previously attended Commission meetings such as Mr. John Bolton. The Commission is asking that each one tour the park and provide input regarding improvements or any other suggestions.

Commissioner Lesser said to provide ideas to the visitors and ask they indicate which ones they are interested in seeing repaired or replaced. She suggested giving citizens

the opportunity to provide comments online as well. She also suggested that a sign interpreter might be needed.

The Commission suggested a Spanish interpreter.

In terms of a fundraiser, Vice Chairperson Fallucca will spearhead this project. He said he would gather his thoughts and return to the Commission.

The Commission agreed to discuss the fundraiser at its October meeting.

Vice Chairperson Fallucca will gather donations to provide refreshments at the event.

Commissioner Kumar suggested a resources table be displayed at the Garden where persons in attendance might gather information regarding the disabled, which might be beneficial.

Ms. Bye added a news release would be distributed to the general public advising of the outreach event.

After a brief discussion, the Commission confirmed Saturday, October 19 from 2pm to 4pm for the date and time of the community outreach event.

VIII. Discussion and Creation of the FY2013-2014 Commission Work Plan

The Commission discussed the Work Plan. Commissioner Hoerner made a motion to approve the FY13-14 Commission Work Plan. Commissioner Kumar seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

IX. Staff Updates

Ms. Bye presented updates from the City staff to the Commission. She distributed information regarding valid service animals and which types of animals were included.

Ms. Bye said the Touch a Truck event would take place on Saturday, October 5 at Westgate this year. This has been a well-received event for many years.

She touched on the City's United Way Program and this year in addition to donating funds one can also donate their time.

She reminded the Commission that the placement of refuse and recycle cans issue would be headed to the City Council meeting on September 24, 2013 at 6pm.

X. Commission Comments and Suggestions

Chairperson Hirsch provided an update of the City Council Workshop where the relocation of the recycle and trash containers was discussed.

She added Kelly Ausbun would be joining the Commission soon.

XI. Adjournment

Commissioner Lesser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kumar seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.