

Mayor's Committee on Disability Concerns

August 14, 2019 — 8:00am Room 225
St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 222 Northwest 15th Street, OKC, OK

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Members in attendance: Herb Bailey, Cathy Borjas, Marilyn Dillon, Scott Ellis, Heather Hancock, Jacob Hill, Larry Hopper, Sidna Madden, Nedra Ruth, Sharron Schaefer, Liz Scheffe, Curtis Singleton, Lori Wathen, Keith Wilkinson, Emma Woodford, Ken Wyatt

Members excused: Dr. Henry Asin, Frank Barnes, Vera Cheek, Melanie Elliott, Vicky Golightly, Jackie Haverly, Adam Lane, Jeremy Moses, Zubayr Rahman, Dana Tallon, James Timberlake, Sandi Webster

Members unexcused: Rebecca Budd, Brittany David, Diana Hubbard

Sidna Madden called the meeting to order at 8:38 am.

Welcome & Introductions – Joy Reardon

1. Action Items:

Approval of July 10, 2019 Amended Minutes – Motion by Scott Ellis, Second by Jacob Hill, Passed Unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Dana Tallon was absent and Sidna Madden presented the report on her behalf. Balance as of 6/30/2019 was \$ 4,572.51 with total income of \$0.39 interest and no expenses for the month. Sidna Madden accepted the treasurer's report on behalf of the committee.

2. Reports: Annual Subcommittee Reports

ADA Workshop – Sidna Madden

Continued contact with speaker this month. The theme is "Drawing the Line: What is working in the accessible design industry" and will provide CEU credits from three entities. Registration is open and a flyer is available and will be updated for screen readers. Speaker is excited and will be donating his speaker fee to MCDC. Website will be updated with the registration opening. Sidna announced she will need help with the lunch planning and distribution on the date of the event. Keith Wilkinson is assisting with the location and audio/visual needs.

Awards – Marilyn Dillon

We have three nominations. Sidna is contacting the Mayor's office to get on the City Council agenda for the 9/24/19 meeting to receive the disability awareness month proclamation and potentially present the three awards. Summaries of nominations will be sent to the committee for voting at the September meeting.

Audit – Marilyn Dillon

No report.

Luncheon Committee – Cathy Borjas

Discussion on a new and better luncheon at the Cox Center. Sidna is contacting Karen Fox for details on using the facility, insurance requirements, availability. Liz Scheffe will assist with a potential date and identifying conflicting dates. Discussed coordinating with the 30th anniversary of the passage of the ADA. Lori Wathen stated she would assist with planning. All members of the committee must get involved if a new and better luncheon is to happen and be successful.

Barrier Free Design – Scott Ellis

Scott is working with Keith Wilkinson on a couple of street crossings downtown. Discussion of crossings near NE 10th & Lincoln, Keith noted this may be a State road and he will have to determine responsibility.

Outreach – Herb Bailey

No report.

Emergency Response – Ken Wyatt

Ken reported that the legion riders, a national motorcycle organization, has committed their local Oklahoma chapter to support disaster response. Will continue to interact and develop a resource list/volunteer list. OKC Boy Scouts were not interested, but Tulsa Boy Scouts were very interested in the volunteer opportunity. Other plans ongoing. The committee is composed of Ken, Scott, Vicky, Zubayr, Frank and Adam with Marilyn providing secretarial support as needed.

Membership Review – Melanie Elliot/Vicky Golightly

Melanie and Vicky were absent but provided a report presented by Sidna. They are currently updating the membership roster; Marilyn will email the most recent list to everyone. Also working on boards/commissions assignments.

Public Relations – Zubayr Rahman/Lori Wathen

Lori reported that bucket meetings continue, and they talked about the luncheon next year. Discussion of social media and our Facebook page. Everyone on the committee needs to like the page, share posts, and like posts. Currently there are 485 followers and we have received 467 page likes. They are trying to put more content out, but the committee must like and share to improve visibility and reach. Email anything to be shared to Sidna, Lori, or Dana. Or tag Lori if you are friends on Facebook.

Strategic Planning – Larry Hopper

No report. Noted that it would be nice to add something funny/silly to the luncheon, karaoke?

Ways and Means – Cathy Borjas

Planning something in conjunction with the lunch next year. Need to start that now and begin looking for vendors. Cathy is still waiting for other committee members to express interest in serving on this subcommittee.

3. Other Business:

Bucket meeting progress – Larry Hopper/Sidna Madden

Attendance is still a problem. Discussion of trying WebEx meetings to allow more to attend if they are unable to leave the office for a meeting. Also have a lunch/brown bag lunch meeting to boost attendance. Will try this next month. EMBARK conference room at South May offices is fully functional for WebEx and offers the ability to record the meeting for members with conflicts.

Ad Hoc Committee for By-Law Review

Cathy sent current revisions prior to the meeting for review. Discussion and comments: Scott Ellis thanked the members for all the work and that the changes are on point. By-laws don't address voting – how do we pass things, voting at the annual meeting, secret ballots, or an actual process. Would like to see it state "meetings are governed by the Chair referring to Robert's Rules of Order and the Parliamentarian". Frank Barnes sent an email asking if we need a statement that City employees cannot serve as Chair or Vice-Chair. Committee agreed this was a good idea.

Cathy stated she would add some language about ballots and voting, requesting secret ballots and how ballots are destroyed. Scott noted this is already covered in Robert's Rules so we don't need to add it. Marilyn suggested we explain voting and requesting secret ballots in the new member handbook.

Other changes: agenda goes out week prior to the meeting, minutes from prior meeting at the same time.

Discussed attendance section: What good does it do if we allow on three unexcused absences, but don't address continuing excused absences. How long do we allow excused absences to go? Under excused absences, it states that six meeting in a year regardless of the type of absence then the individual is referred to the executive committee for action.

Cathy will review the document in lieu of the meeting's discussion and send out an updated copy of the by-laws for review prior to the next meeting. The intent is to vote on the changes in September.

MCDC Email – Dana Tallon by Sidna Madden

No emails received.

4. New Business:

Jacob Hill shared information on a new initiative/advocacy effort called Share the Space. This is designed to increase awareness of parking, vehicles blocking sidewalks, usage of van-accessible designated spaces. This also includes large pavement/sidewalk cracks that block access. Norman did something in the water bill insert. We can do this in OKC as well. Keith Wilkson noted that the City Attorney has stated that we cannot ticket or tow a car in a private drive across a sidewalk, would need a new ordinance to enforce.

Meeting attendance/Meeting date and time: Is it time to poll members about alternate meeting dates and times to boost regular attendance and participation? Sidna will contact the church for alternate availability and then Marilyn will send out a Survey to members. We will see what we find out and go from there.

Sydney Lane has been accepted to Occupational Therapy school and has resigned from the Committee.

5. Reports from Members on Boards and Commissions:

Community Action Agency – Herb Bailey attended the meetings and had nothing to report.

Lori Wathen asked when we will get updated assignments – Sidna noted that the Membership Committee is working on this now.

Cathy Borjas shared that she attended an expo in Houston and the Houston MCDC was there. She brought back some handouts. Marilyn will scan these and send out to the committee.

Lori Wathen announced that the Rock the Block event will be held at Dolese Park. She will post details on the MCDC FB page.

Sharron Schaefer announced that channel 5 did a story on two patients at the VA with spinal cord injuries. They are using a prototype robotic exoskeleton and are using them to walk for occupational and physical therapy.

6. Adjourn: Next MCDC Meeting August 14, 2019

Marilyn Dillon moved to adjourn/Keith Wilkson seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.