

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
July 3, 2014 MINUTES

Commissioners Present:

Luke Byram, Susan Dye, JoAnn Fritsche, Todd Holloway, Don Izenman, Roxanne Miles, Linda Moran, Krystal Monteros, Gary Peterson

Staff Present:

Tansy Hayward, Marya Gingrey, Gail Himes, William Yi

Guests Present:

Jenny Adams

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order. The agenda was accepted as presented. The minutes of the June 5, 2014 meeting were accepted as presented.

Presentation: Jenny Adams – Ms. Wheelchair America

- Jenny Adams talked about her family, childhood and life experiences.
- Jenny Adams started an anti-bullying campaign called “The Power of Words.”
- Jenny Adams started a motivational speaking business in Tacoma around 2011.
- Jenny Adams won the Ms. Wheelchair America title in 2013.
- According to Jenny Adams, the number one issue is a lack of accessible taxis. She recounted an experience when she paid \$200 on taxi fare from the Puyallup Fair to her home. There is no accountability with certain accessible taxi services.
- Jenny Adams encouraged the COD to come up with a plan of action to address the issues surrounding accessible taxis in Tacoma.

REPORTS:

TACID Report: (Ken Gibson)

- Ken Gibson will be leaving TACID on July 31, 2014.
- The TACID Board is currently searching for an interim director.

NCS Director’s Report: (Tansy Hayward)

- The Human Services Strategic Plan’s priorities have not changed significantly.
 - The most significant change is under “Mental Health and Chemical Dependency”, which targets the homeless population for services.
- The Citywide Strategic Plan will identify a shared vision for Tacoma’s future and steps needed to achieve it by 2025. A few ways to get involved are to:
 - Join the online community forum. <http://engagetacoma.mindmixer.com>
 - Attend the community meeting on Wednesday, July 30, 2014 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center (1500 Broadway).
 - Visit the website. www.Tacoma2025.com



- The online version of the citizen survey is now available.

Human Rights Manager Report: (Marya Gingrey)

- The HRC and COD will establish a joint subcommittee to address jurisdiction of employment discrimination investigations.

Center for Independence (CFI) Report: (Todd Holloway)

- The CFI Youth Transition Program of the State IL Youth Conference will be held at Seattle University from July 20 – July 24, 2014.
- The Annual NCIL Conference will be held in Washington DC, July 26 – August 1, 2014.
- The CFI annual picnic will be held at FT Steilacoom Park on August 8, 2014.
- CFI is in the process of recreating a more accessible and functional website for the North and South offices.

ADA Coordinator Report: (Gail Himes)

- The National ADA Symposium was held in Denver, CO. This was a national gathering of people across the country from different fields and occupations.
- The porch lifts at Cheney Stadium can now be accessed without a key.
- There is a new Taco Time being built on S38th and remodels to buildings such as, Marlene's Market and the Pierce Transit Garage.
- Two unisex restrooms will be available at Oldtown Dock after July 4, 2014.
- Gail Himes is working to ensure that outdoor artwork is ADA accessible.

Open Forum:

- Robert B. talked about his childhood, family, disability and life experiences. Robert recounted an experience of getting a parking ticket because his card that identifies him as the placard owner had expired, even though he had a Disability Parking Placard. Robert reported that people with disabilities are being unfairly targeted. Robert wants to let the COD know that they are doing a good job.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Parking and Transportation

- In June, the subcommittee attended a couple of Tacoma City Council subcommittee meetings.

Marketing and Communication

- No report.



Employment

- No report.

Built Design and Policy

- Vice-Chair Miles talked about a draft version of the Emergency Management Plan Review.

Stakeholder Group Reports

- No report.

Good of the Order/Announcements

- None.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM.

Next Meeting – Thursday, August 7, 2014, 4:00-6:00 PM at TACID

