

Commission on Disability Concern - Special Projects Sub Committee
Thursday, January 7, 2010 at 6:15 PM
Tempe Library Restaurant

Minutes

Members present:

Armando Faustini, Frank Emery, Liz Perez, Robert Kizere

Public Appearances:

None

1. Consideration of Meeting Minutes: None, this was the first meeting of this sub-committee.

2. Election of Officers: Armando Faustini was elected Chair, Frank Emery was elected Secretary.

3. Agenda: Brain Storm Membership ideas for projects.

A. Frank Emery discussed problems with the Tempe Town Lake on the Rio Salado. Committee passed problem to Awareness Sub-Committee.

B. Committee discussed goals to pursue.

The first sub-committee goal is to see that people with disabilities be provided with adequate services at City wide events. The second goal is to be sure that the community is aware of the Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns. A third goal is to develop independent funds to support our efforts. Lastly, the sub-committee would like to be highly involved in the planning and coordination of city wide events.

1. Robert will coordinate with the City Calendar of current events to develop a checklist of events that will use city facilities.

From that list the members will coordinate ADA compliance with the sponsors; the aim is to have voluntary compliance. To assure compliance volunteers will be available to assure that there are an adequate number of disability toilets, cabling is passable and other items inspected for adequate accommodation of members of our disabled community.

2. Liz Perez believes that members of the Sub-Committee should staff tables all public events.

3. Robert Kizere indicated that Sears will provide two tractors to the committee to provide products for raffle or other such fund raisers. Funds

would be maintained at best practices to provide shirts and other financial needs of the sub-committee and the Commission as a whole.

4. Liz Perez and Robert Kizere will attend the Special Events Committee and provide presents for the sub-committee.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 to join the regular meeting of the Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns.

MEMO

To: Awareness Sub-Committee, Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns
From: Frank Emery, Special Projects Sub-Committee member, Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns
Date: February 3, 2010
Subject: ADA issues on the Tempe Town Lake on the Rio Salado

Approximately two years ago, the members of the Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns observed five violations of the American with Disabilities Act, (ADA,) on Tempe Town Lake on the Rio Salado. I presented these violations to the Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns and the City of Tempe Recreation Committee.

(These observations were deemed violations of the ADA by the U.S. Department of Justice, Disability Rights Section, Technical Assistance.)

The week following my presentation to the Recreation Committee I was invited to a meeting with the Manager of the Rio Salado Project, Ms. Nancy Ryan, to observe the facilities at Tempe Town Lake.

They are impressive, fully compliant with the ADA, except that they are inaccessible due to lack of notice or signage prohibiting use. The Manager promised that corrective action would take place. A memo of that meeting was made.

Two years later nothing has happened.

The members of the Special Projects Sub-Committee of the Commission on Disability Concerns would like for your Sub-Committee to take up this item and help make the Tempe Town Lake on the Rio Salado fully compliant with American with Disabilities Act.

I have prepared a presentation of the issues to illustrate the facilities on the lake and why this park is not in compliance with ADA.