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## PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES



### Commission on Disability Concerns Thursday, June 2, 2011 Tempe Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Board Room 3500 S. Rural Rd.

#### MINUTES

The Meeting was called to order at 6:43 PM by Chairman Mitchell.

**(MEMBERS) Present:** Chair: Ed Mitchell, Martha Ashburn, Richard Halverson, Nora Nunez, Diane Moran, Irene Mochel and Aaron Edgell.

**(MEMBERS) Excused Absence (Notification):** Frank Emery, Jolene De Tiege, Chelsea Chamberlain, Tom Ringhofer and Sarah Kader.

**Staff Present:** Rosa Inchausti, Diversity Manager

**Public Appearances: NONE**

1. **Consideration of Meeting Minutes:** 05/05/11 Draft Commission Minutes.  
Motion by Irene Mochel to correct the spelling of "Meeting" in item 7 of the Minutes, seconded by Nora Nunez and approved unanimously.  
  
Motion by Aaron Edgell to approve the Meeting Minutes for May 5, 2011, seconded by Nora Nunez and approved unanimously.
2. **Update and Status of Proposed Amendment to TCC 19-93:** Martha Ashburn  
Commissioner Ashburn reported that a meeting was held with Assistant City Manager Jeff Kulaga, Rosa Inchausti, Ed Mitchell and a representative from Special Events on Thursday, June 2, 2010 to discuss a final draft of the Amendments to Tempe City Code 19-93. A consensus was reached regarding the Code. There was support for opening the small parking lot between the main parking lot of Tempe Town Lake and the Pennysaver office. The proposal is to stripe the area for Accessible Parking Areas and Spaces and to make it available at all times when the regular Accessible Parking Areas are being used for Special Events.  
  
It is hoped that the Amendment will be considered by the City Council July 7, 2011 or August 18, 2011.
3. **Commissioners' Reports on Projects and Interest:**
  - a) **Downtown Tempe Accessible Parking Update:** Ed Mitchell  
Chairman Mitchell reported that the current plan is to place two additional Accessible Spaces in front of Tempe Community Council, one of which will be

Van Accessible. The spaces removed from the construction of the outdoor cafe area have not been replaced at this time. Non-specific reserved parking signs have been placed at this time. No further information is available at the time of this meeting.

The new hotel which will be immediately adjacent to the Tempe City Parking facility will add an additional 4-5 Accessible Spaces which will be for hotel clients. This will be necessary due to the multiple patterns of parking traffic that will cause conflicts for the hotel, City employees, shoppers, transit riders, police and court visitors, etc.

It was reported that Development actually conducted the Parking study for downtown Tempe and that they did identify all of the Accessible Spaces. We hope to see copies and locations for those spaces at a later date.

It has also been reported that the intent of the Council is to reduce parking in the downtown area, this will require more awareness for the need for Accessible Spaces in order to make the area accessible for people with disabilities.

- b) Best Practices Project Research Group:** Frank Emery  
Commissioner Emery has informed the Chairman that he will be moving to Seattle for a period on three or more years. He is sending a letter of resignation to the City Clerk. Our appreciation for Frank's valuable service cannot be adequately expressed and the Commission wishes him well in his new position. We will need someone to lead the Best Practices Project or it will have to be put on hold for a period of time.
- c) Section 8 Housing for Tempe Citizens with Disabilities:** Rich Halverson  
Commissioner Halverson and Chairman Mitchell have not been able to reach any of the sales staff at Apache ASL Trails project for the Hearing Impaired and otherwise disabled. Vice-Chairperson Ashburn will contact her sources regarding this and contact Commissioner Halverson.  
  
Commissioner Halverson expressed his concern for the safe accessibility of the Orbit bus. It was suggested that this would be a good topic to have someone from Transit to address.
- d) Social Media and Commission on Disabilities Concern Website:** Jolene de Tiege and Chelsea Chamberlain.  
Both Commissioners were unable to make this meeting. Commissioner Chamberlain did attend a Social Media for the City of Tempe and the Commissioner is planning on making a report for the Commission.
- e) Support of the Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns Award Ceremony:** Irene Mochel  
Commissioner Mochel reported that the first meeting has yet to be scheduled, and she will continue to keep the Commission informed, especially those who have expressed an interest in being a part of the planning.
- f) College Avenue Construction** – Rich Halverson  
Commissioner Halverson expressed his concern that the construction on College Avenue has made it more difficult for pedestrians and individuals with disabilities to travel down the street. A representative from Public Works will be contacted to

Speak at a future meeting to address the purpose, plan and challenges.

**g) Arizona Health Care System –**

Sarah Kader will present a report on the status of AHCCCS and (July Commission Meeting)

**4. Status of letters to Fry's Grocery, Tempe Elementary School District and Wal-Mart for Accessible Improvements at the Rural and Southern stores:**

Letters to express gratitude for their efforts in creating an accessible environment for citizens with disabilities. Chairman Mitchell will send the letters out after conferring with Karl Stephens.

**5. Election of Commission Officers for the coming year**

The following individuals were elected to the positions listed below by a unanimous vote. Each officer is elected for a one year term for the 2011-2012 year.

Chairperson: Ed Mitchell

Vice-Chairperson: Martha Ashburn

Secretary: Sarah Kader

**6. Future Presentations by Tempe Departments.**

Shelly Seyler - Public Works

Tom Abbott – Fire Department

Kathy Berzins – Community Services Manager

Mary Ann Miller – President/CEO Tempe Chamber of Commerce

Michael Williams – Development Services

**7. Commissioners' Issues and Concerns for July.**

**8. Meeting Adjourned**

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