

# MILWAUKEE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Deb Falk-Palec, Chairperson  
Tim Ochnikowski, Director  
June 8, 2015

## MINUTES

St. John's Properties  
1800 N. Prospect Ave  
1:00 PM

### ITEM I CALL TO ORDER

Chair Falk-Palec called the June meeting of the Commission for Persons with Disabilities to order at 1:10pm.

Chair Falk-Palec mentioned the passing of Alderman, and former commissioner, Joe Dudzik. A moment of silence was observed in Joe's memory and honor.

### ITEM II ROLL CALL

Chair Falk-Palec led the self-introductions of those present. Commissioners present for the meeting of the Milwaukee County Commission for Persons with Disabilities were:

Luis Arroyo  
Deb Falk-Palec  
Barbara Leigh  
Cheri Mc Grath  
Susan Pickering  
Andrzej Walz-Chojnacki

Absent or Excused:

John Haupt  
Tom Jacobs  
Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr.  
Denise Koss  
Meg Steimle  
Kathryn Zalewski

Staff:

Mike Bonk  
Tim Ochnikowski

Guests:

Tracy Harrington, MTS  
Marcia Perkins, TPAC, Advocate

### ITEM III APPROVAL OF MINUTES (May)

Commissioner Walz-Chojnacki moved approval of the minutes. Chair Falk-Palec accepted the minutes as approved.

### ITEM IV SPECIAL REPORT

### ITEM V TRANSIT PLUS REPORT

Ms. Harrington indicated that the number of New Freedom rides given is 215,044 through May 30, the number of GO Pass rides given to the aging group is 163,374, and the number of GO Pass rides given to persons with disabilities is 210,000. To date, 10,000 GO Passes have been given out. Discussion took place regarding the GO Pass eligibility requirements, the MTS teams visiting sites to distribute applications and cards, MTS funding, and doing a press release regarding the amount of money being saved by persons with disabilities riding the bus versus talking paratransit.

### ITEM VI COMMITTEE UPDATES

Commissioner Pickering indicated that the Trust Fund committee met regarding a funding proposal that was received from Independence First for ADA Anniversary Celebration and Tap the Potential activities. After much discussion regarding the proposal and the activities involved, together with the involvement of the commission and office with this anniversary celebration and Tap the Potential activities, the committee voted to not fund this request from the commission's trust fund. Commissioner Pickering moved to decline the request for funding from Independence First for ADA Anniversary Celebration and Tap the Potential activities. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGrath.

Discussion took place regarding the trust fund's history and funding criteria, the Tap the Potential activities and past funding, and the proposals budget items. Following discussion, the vote was called. The motion passed with all Aye's and Commissioner Leigh abstaining.

**ITEM VII REVIEW OFFICE REPORT (May)**

Following no questions or additions to the office report, Mr. Ochnikowski indicated that the 2016 budget requests for the office and commission has been submitted. OPD met the target of a 0% budget increase for the office by submitting a request that was 98.72% of the target (1.28% BELOW the target).

**ITEM VIII COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS**

Mr. Bonk indicated that the Spring Fling went well with 35 people who attended. Summer camp is starting soon. Sailing recently started. The FREE summer concerts are starting. Work continues with the Adaptive Sports Expo. Discussion took place regarding the sports expo, and the RFP for recreation.

**ITEM IX OTHER MATTERS BY COMMISSIONERS**

**ITEM X OTHER MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC**

**ITEM XI ADJOURN**

Chair Falk-Palec adjourned the meeting at 2:00pm. The next meeting of the Commission will be Monday, July 13, 2015 at 1:00pm at St. John's Properties (1800 N. Prospect Ave, Milwaukee).

Submitted by: Mike Bonk and Tim Ochnikowski, Staff to the Commission

