

MILWAUKEE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Deb Falk-Palec, Chairperson
Tim Ochnikowski, Director
January 13th, 2020

MINUTES

St. John's On the Lake
1800 N. Prospect Ave.
Eilers Conference Room

ITEM I CALL TO ORDER

1:00 pm

ITEM II ROLL CALL

Acting Chairwoman Marcia Perkins led the self-introductions of everyone in attendance.

Commissioners Present: Damian Buchman (via phone), Deb Falk-Palec (via phone), John Haupt, Supervisor Willie Johnson Jr., Denise Koss (via phone), Barbara Leigh, Marcia Perkins

Commissioners Absent or Excused: Norma Duckworth, Cheri McGrath, Sue Pickering, Meg Steimle

Guests: - Samantha Brophy MCFI, Therese Gripenotrog - Milwaukee County Parks, Karl Stave - Milwaukee County A&E, Fran Musci - Transit Plus, Karen Traner, Takeela Traner – Eric Hobbs Award Winner, Tiffany Traner

Staff: Mike Bonk

ITEM III APPROVAL OF MINUTES (December)

Commissioner Johnson Jr. made a motion to approve. Commissioner Haupt 2nd the motion, hearing no objection minutes were approved.

ITEM IV SPECIAL REPORTS

- A. Kletzsch Park Fish Passage & Accessibility Project (Parks & A&E)
Therese Gripenotrog and Karl Stave presented the Commission with their proposed plans to the Kletzsch Park Fish Passage and Accessibility Project. Ms. Gripenotrog presented the plans for the accessible walkway and explained that there has been community feedback that does not feel as though the accessible pathways are not necessary for the project. The accessible pathways are desired by Milwaukee County Parks as well as required for the Grant money that is being used, that any improvements include accessible pathways. Mr. Stave provided information regarding the fish passage and explained that the fish passage and access to the river must be where it is located due to a flood plain on the opposite side of the river. The Commission discussed the possibility of being an advocate to the parks on this initiative to promote access to the river. Commissioner Haupt And Leigh discussed meeting before the next meeting to discuss this issue more, and how-to best advocate for accessibility on this project.
- B. Eric Hobbs Award Art Award Winner (Takeela Traner)
October is known as Disability Awareness Month. The Office for Persons with Disabilities helps coordinated several community events. One longstanding event is the Mitchell International Airport Artshow which is displayed several weeks at the MKE Airport. Travelers and people within the airport vote on their favorite artwork and the winner receives the Eric Hobbs Awards. The Commission for Persons with Disabilities presented Takeela Traner with a check for \$500 for her award-winning work called "Sexy Woman in a Wheelchair". Takeela graciously accepted the award. Commission will discuss at a future meeting where it would be best to display the artwork.

ITEM V TRANSIT PLUS REPORT

Fran Musci provided the Transit Plus Report. Transit Plus had over 35,000 rides for the previous month and had an on-time percentage of 94.84%. 17-20 Piloted Aira users have all given good feedback regarding using Aira to travel using MCTS service. The County Executive and MCTS will have a press conference regarding the launch of Aira with MCTS on February 5th at 11:00am

ITEM VI COMMITTEE UPDATES

- A. Executive Committee (Commission Membership)

ITEM VII REVIEW OFFICE REPORT (December)

Staff Mike Bonk explained that we continue to improve the Wil-O-Way facilities. Wil-O-Way Grant is in the process of having double pane windows installed in the main hall area. Wil-O-Way Underwood will be getting painted on the inside of the facility in the main hall area, main hallways, as well as coat room.

ITEM VIII COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS

A. Recreation Report

Staff Mike Bonk reported that the Spring Program booklets were sent out to participants and can begin enrolling in spring programming. Snowmobile Festival will take place on February 1st from 12:00pm – 3:00pm at Wil-O-Way Underwood. The Office for Persons with Disabilities is planning some activities for the 30th Anniversary of the ADA which occurs on July 26th. The Office does awareness flyers, as well as tries to coordinate additional opportunities through the year. Summer Camp Booklets will be coming out in February and can begin registering at that time. The Office is again accepting Wil-O-Way Key Card applications for the year 2020.

B. Chairperson’s Report

Chairwoman Falk-Palec mentioned that she has been traveling a lot lately through the MKE Airport and suggested to have Aira mentioned over the overhead announcements.

ITEM IX OTHER MATTERS BY COMMISSIONERS

ITEM X OTHER MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

ITEM XI ADJOURN

Chairwoman adjourned the meeting at 2:28pm. The next meeting of the Commission will be February 10, 2020, 1:00pm at St. John’s on the Lake, 1800 N. Prospect Ave.

Submitted by: Mike Bonk, Staff to the Commission

