

MILWAUKEE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Deb Falk-Palec, Chairperson
Tim Ochnikowski, Director
March 11th, 2019

MINUTES

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

ITEM I CALL TO ORDER

1:02 pm

ITEM II ROLL CALL

Chairwoman Deb Falk-Palec led the self-introductions of everyone in attendance.

Commissioners Present: John Haupt, Supervisor Willie Johnson, Deb Falk-Palec, Denise Koss, Cheri McGrath, Marcia Perkins, and Meg Steimle

Commissioners Absent or Excused: Norma Duckworth, Barbara Leigh, and Sue Pickering

Guests: Damian Buchman - The Ability Center, Fran Musci - Transit Plus Amos Besaw, Karin Bachman Disabilities Services Division

Staff: Mike Bonk

ITEM III APPROVAL OF MINUTES (February)

Commissioner Steimle made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Perkins made a 2nd motion to approve the minutes. Hearing no objections, Chairwoman Deb Falk-Palec accepted the minutes as written.

ITEM IV SPECIAL REPORTS

Karin Bachman from the Disabilities Services Division provided an informational report on the functions of Disabilities Services Division. Disabilities Services Division provides options and enrollment counseling, youth transition, information and assistance, benefits, and referrals to additional resources within the community for individuals ages 18-59. The State of Wisconsin is working on a report card that would provide information on the providers available for publicly funded long-term care providers. Amos Besaw provided an informational report regarding how to apply for benefits, or change benefits, and or disenrollment within the programs.

ITEM V TRANSIT PLUS REPORT

Staff Fran Musci reported annual report has been released and there were 30 million bus rides in 2018. Transit Plus provided 527,941 rides in 2018. Transit Plus provided 27,995 Transit Plus Rides in January.

ITEM VI COMMITTEE UPDATES

Wil-O-Way Committee will meet before the next Commission Meeting to discuss inclusivity at Wil-O-Way Camps.

ITEM VII REVIEW OFFICE REPORT

ITEM VIII COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS

- A. Recreation Report – The Office for Persons with Disabilities is again working with the Milwaukee Community Sailing Center to provide free sailing opportunities to persons with disabilities and their families. The Office will be highlighting and promoting the Adaptive Equipment Opportunities that are available within the community to utilize through social media. The focus will be highlighting unique opportunities such as the Beach Wheelchairs at Bradford Beach, Adaptive Handcycles at Veterans Park, and Paramobile Golf Carts available at Milwaukee County Golf Courses. In addition the Parks Department has a grant with PGA Hope to provide golf lessons to veterans, some of which can utilize the Paramobile golf cart. In addition there is an Adaptive Kayak launch available at Badger Meter Park in Brown Deer (not a county park). Upcoming Ticket Opportunities include discounted tickets to Milwaukee Brewers Games, and free tickets to the Milwaukee Milkmen games to be held at the Rock Sports Complex at Routine Field. Aira will be made available for seasonal programs such as the Beer Gardens, Summer Concert Series, and more.

- B. Chairperson's Report – Chairwoman Deb Falk-Palec provided an updated of the City of Milwaukee's Pilot Program. The City of Milwaukee in collaboration with Emery's Bike's, and Bublr Bikes will be offering 17 adaptive bikes within the program this spring. Seventeen bikes were purchased, 7 Side by Sides, 7 Trikes, and 3 Handcycles. The pilot program is expected to start this April.

ITEM IX OTHER MATTERS BY COMMISSIONERS

ITEM X OTHER MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

Commissioner Haupt reported that the Tour of America's Dairyland Handcycling Championship event will take place in Wisconsin this year.

ITEM XI ADJOURN

Chairwoman Deb Falk-Palec adjourned the meeting at 2:40 pm. The next meeting of the Commission will be April 8th, 2019, 1:00pm at St. John's on the Lake, 1800 N. Prospect Ave.

Submitted by: Mike Bonk, Staff to the Commission