

MILWAUKEE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Deb Falk-Palec, Chairperson
Tim Ochnikowski, Director
May 14th, 2018

MINUTES

St. John's Properties
1800 N. Prospect Ave.
12:30 PM

ITEM I CALL TO ORDER

12:30pm

ITEM II ROLL CALL

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

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

Commissioners Absent or Excused: Tom Jacobs, Sue Pickering, and Kathy Zalewski,

Guests: Damian Buchman, Norma Duckworth, Fran Musci - MCTS

ITEM III COMMISSION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

Commission requested to go into closed session to discuss commission membership. Motion by Commissioner Kearney, Second by Koss.

I: Deb Falk-Palec, John Haupt, Supervisor Willie Johnson, Anne Kearney, Denise Koss, Barbara Leigh, Cheri McGrath, Marcia Perkins, Meg Steimle,

No:

ITEM IV APPROVAL OF MINTUES (April)

Date of the workgroup was April 24th

Commissioner Kearney made a motion to approve the minutes. Hearing no discussion, Chairwoman Deb Falk-Palec accepted the minutes as written.

ITEM V SPECIAL REPORTS

Ms. Norma Duckworth introduced herself, and expressed her interest in becoming a Commission member. Ms. Duckworth. Ms. Duckworth has experience working within the inner city, and advocating for community members, and building relationships to improve the overall community. Ms. Duckworth is a case manager for the Choice Neighborhood Initiative that works with the City of Milwaukee's Housing Authority. Ms. Duckworth also has experience working with the Boys and Girls Club of Milwaukee. Ms. Duckworth is hoping to bring her experience working with the inner city as well as special needs within the school system to help share resources directly in the communities that need them, as well as advocating for individuals with disabilities.

ITEM VI TRANSIT PLUS REPORT

Fran Musci provided the Transit Plus Report. MCTS is down 6000 ADA Boarding's to date so far this year. New Freedom rides are also down. MCTS is investigating why the numbers are down, as they believe some of the issues are coming when the bus operators are swiping the payments at the fare boxes, or lack thereof. Ms. Musci asked for feedback from the Commission Members on their experiences. Commissioner Koss, explained her routine in regards to securement, and have had good experiences with getting the fare properly taken off her MCards. Transit Plus ridership data is a little behind due to low staff at MCTS. Ms. Musci explained that all data should be up to date by the next meeting as they are now fully staffed. Ms. Musci also explained that taxi complaints through American United are up. Most complaints are in regards to on time performance. Commissioner Perkins mentioned she has had issues with cab drivers. Ms. Musci recommended that if you receive poor performance with any cab drivers to contact MCTS at 414-343-1700 so they can look into which drivers are having poor service, so they can block certain drivers from picking up their customers. Commission discussed the need to learn more about the streetcar and will invite Ms. Tracy Harrington to a future meeting to discuss the new streetcar and accessibility.

ITEM VII COMMITTEE UPDATES

ITEM VIII REVIEW OFFICE REPORT

ITEM IX COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS

A. Recreation Report

Staff Mike Bonk reported that the Milwaukee Community Sailing Center is continuing the summer Sail Away Program in collaboration with the Office for Persons with Disabilities. The office has been accepting reservations. Two morning sails have filled up already, and information can be found in the Handy News & Notes and Rec On Deck newsletters, online website, social media, as well as printable forms can be sent out. Summer Program guides have been sent out to families. Summer Dances dates did have some errors so Easterseals will be sending out a separate flyer with the corrected dance dates. Summer camp planning is underway, and Easterseals is in the process of accepting applications and hiring the summer camp staff to host the camps. Summer Camp ratios are 1 staff per 4 campers. Currently Easterseals has more applications than the amount of staff they need to be able to fully staff the summer camps.

B. Bike Share

Chairwoman Deb Falk-Palec explained that there is a Bike Share work group meeting today, May 14th, at 3:30pm Washington Park. Chairwoman Deb Falk-Palec explained that the Office of African American Affairs has written a letter of support for the next bike share models, and would like to see accessible options as well. Chairwoman Deb Falk-Palec will continue to bring updates to future meetings regarding the progress of Bike Share in the City of Milwaukee.

C. Chairperson’s Report –Next meeting location may change due to construction at the St. John’s Meeting. Possible locations include Wil-O-Way Underwood, Libraries, St. John’s, or MCTS.

ITEM X OTHER MATTERS BY COMMISSIONERS

ITEM XI OTHER MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

ITEM XII ADJOURN

Commissioner adjourned the meeting at 2:13pm. The next meeting of the Commission will be June 11th, 2018, 1:00pm at St. John’s on the Lake (1800 N. Prospect Ave, Milwaukee).

Submitted by: Mike Bonk, Staff to the Commission

