

# MILWAUKEE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Deb Falk-Palec, Chairperson  
Tim Ochnikowski, Director  
October 9th, 2017

## MINUTES

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

### ITEM I CALL TO ORDER

1:02pm

### ITEM II ROLL CALL

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

Commissioners Present: Deb Falk-Palec, Anne Kearney, Denise Koss, Barbara Leigh, Cheri McGrath, Marcia Perkins, and Meg Steimle,

Commissioners Absent or Excused: John Haupt, Tom Jacobs, Sue Pickering, Supervisor Willie Johnson, and Kathy Zalewski

Staff: Mike Bonk

Guests: Sandy Kellner – MCTS, Ken Woodall – Transit Plus, Karen Cohen & Ben Holt – Cardinal Capital Management, Inc.

### ITEM III APPROVAL OF MINTUES (September)

September Minutes - Commissioner Kearney made motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Steimle noted that the last minutes did not have an end time which was 2:45pm. Hearing no additional discussion Chairwoman Deb Falk-Palec approved the minutes.

### ITEM IV SPECIAL REPORTS

Cardinal Capital Management – Ben Holt discussed the history of Cardinal Capital Management was started, and the areas they focus on supportive housing for special needs, homeless, and veterans. Cardinal Capital is looking to start a new model not yet done anywhere else in the US. They are hoping to build inclusive housing that would incorporate persons with disabilities, college students, They're hoping to provide a community within a community that includes hiking trails, gardens, greenhouses, and more. Karin Cohen discussed how the housing needs to be inclusive of all people with and without disabilities. Cardinal has support from Concordia University that would provide housing for students, as well as persons with disabilities. In addition this would provide natural learning experiences for the students who will graduate working in similar fields that can support persons with disabilities.

### ITEM V TRANSIT PLUS REPORT

Ken Woodall explained that Sandy Kellner is acting as interim director at Transit Plus at MCTS until they fill the position. This change was due to Tracy Harrington leaving Transit Plus. Ken spoke with Chris Fox regarding ADA boarding's are down 4% for year to date. There has been an increase in assessment appointments for Transit Plus. MCTS has seen an increase in appeal in denials and appeal hearings for Transit Plus. MCTS is looking for feedback regarding Transit Plus Appointments and streamlining the process. The commission made MCTS aware of the official grievance filed against City of Milwaukee and Bublr Bikes filed by Disability Rights Wisconsin. The Commission was wondering how and why the partnership between MCTS and Bublr formed to come use the Buslr Pass. As of right now Transit Express has a driver shortage which has had an effect on trip times and tardiness.

### ITEM VI COMMITTEE UPDATES

No committee's previously met.

### ITEM VII REVIEW OFFICE REPORT

### ITEM VIII COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS

A. Eric Hobbs Awards/ Art Discussion



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MilwaukeeCountyOPD

Mike Bonk reported that October is known as Disability Awareness Month. Previously the Commission has always supported the Eric Hobbs Award which is a \$500 award given to the artist who wins the Mitchell International Airport Art Show. The Commission had discussion regarding continuing to support the \$500 award using money from the Commission for Persons with Disabilities Trust Fund. Commissioner Perkins made the motion to approve \$500 to be awarded to the artist with the most votes at the Mitchell International Airport Art Show. Barbara Leigh discussed the option of supporting additional prizes to be paid out. Mike explained that with additional support from sponsors, they will be paying out five places at this year's show. Commissioner Kearney 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion to approve the award. The commission then all voted in favor of the award, with no objections.

#### B. Recreation Update(s)

Mike Bonk discussed Wil-O-Way Key Card updates. Teams that are included in the ticket program this fall include the Milwaukee Admirals, Bucks, & Wave, which offer free and discounted tickets. Mike also gave an update on additional discounted tickets that are offered to the general public using the Bucks Ticketpass by visiting [www.bucks.com/Ticketpass](http://www.bucks.com/Ticketpass) using the coupon code MCOPD. Mike also mentioned the discounts through the Marcus Center by visiting [marcuscenter.org/mcaccess](http://marcuscenter.org/mcaccess) and can receive discounts using the group coupon code: countytix Folk Fair Tickets free for individuals with disabilities. Mike then reported the Tap the Potential Events that support October and the Disability Awareness Month activities.

Tap the Potential Events include: Mitchell International Airport Artshow, White Cane Safety Day Flash Mob on October 17<sup>th</sup>, Fashion Show at Wil-O-Way Underwood and the Art Show at IndependenceFirst.

#### C. Chairpersons Report

Cleveland Cavaliers have installed a sensory inclusive area. Chairwoman Deb Falk-Palec has been inquiring with both Bucks and Cavaliers and Kulture City to have a sensory inclusive area at the new Bucks arena. The room is designed to help individuals with auditory issues, to offer a space to get away from all of the noise associated while attending the events in the new arena. The goal of the NBA is to include more rooms like this in all new arenas. The Commission and the office will work together to see if this is the plans for the new arena.

Andrzej Walz-Chojnacki has officially stepped down from his seat on the Commission, and the Commission will be seeking a new individual that would be interested in serving on the Commission.

### ITEM IX OTHER MATTERS BY COMMISSIONERS

#### ITEM X OTHER MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

On October 25<sup>th</sup> at 5PM Barbara will be performing at the Grand Avenue Club.

Commissioner McGrath hopes to make more people aware of the accessible voting stations. The Commission discussed the possibility of inviting the Election Commission in to a future meeting to see what is the best way to distribute information regarding the accessible voting stations, and policies within Milwaukee County.

### ITEM XI ADJOURN

Chairwoman Falk-Palec adjourned the meeting at 2:43pm. The next meeting of the Commission will be November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 1:00pm at St. John's on the Lake (1800 N. Prospect Ave, Milwaukee).

Submitted by: Mike Bonk, Staff to the Commission