

Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities
March 21, 2024
12:00pm
Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Chair Wanda Becton called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

II. Invocation

Chair Wanda Becton

III. Roll Call (Members Present) Liaison Krystal Fuller

Wanda Becton
David Snodgress
Shelby Ostendorf
Don Willis
Arndrea Thomas
Cynthia Green

Tamara Wilder
Pier Protz
Sandra Merritt
Johnny Holland
Ex-Officio Brandi Matthews

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Vice-Chair Shelby Ostendorf made a motion to approve the agenda. Member Johnny Holland seconded it. All were in favor and the agenda was adopted.

V. Old Business

A. Approval of Minutes-January 2024:

Member David Snodgress made a motion to approve the minutes. Member Sandra Merritt Seconded. All were in favor and the meeting minutes were approved.

VI. New Business

A. Mayors Walk Preparation 2024:

- Marketing/Promotions: Flyer and Marketing will start the first week in April Contact various support agencies to tell them about the walk, promoting on the City's website, Facebook page, and the MCPD Facebook page, registration link on the City's website
- Activities: Parks & Recreations department and Renu Life will possibly bring lawn games for attendees to play while waiting for the walk to begin

- Continue this year with the Downtown Merchant letters and encourage their attendance and support
- Vice-Chair Shelby Ostendorf will coordinate the donation of lunches for the volunteers, and Rock Creation Music Therapy Band, and will secure stickers to give to attendees
- Member Johnny Holland will try to secure a visit from “Stormy” the mascot, based on availability
- Possible decorations, banners, signs
- Will provide water, and no other snacks because of dietary restrictions
- Will secure EMT/Medics to present at walk
- Parking group to meet on April 22nd at 12:00pm at The Hub to discuss the logistics of parking and attendee drop off
- Theme: “Superheroes, together we are better”

B. Election Nominations 2024:

- Elections will be conducted at the April 18th meeting, nominations submitted to Liaison Krystal Fuller for Chair and Vice Chair

C. Events/Activities/Initiatives 2024 :

- Adult Changing table, Ex-Officio Brandi Matthews shared a website and resources that helps to advocate for adult changing tables, decision made to identify and present letters to the corporate and local locations of major retailers, incorporate local citizens that are affected, continue to work on initiative in the coming months
- Motion made by Member David Snodgrass to purchase t-shirts with the MCPD logo on them to identify members at various events. Member Johnny Holland seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- Motion made by Member Johnny Holland to purchase materials, such as pens and pencils, to distribute while the MCPD is attending awareness events. Member David Snodgrass seconded it. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- Support materials: Member Arndrea Thomas and Vice-Chair Shelby Ostendorf offered to update the current MCPD brochure.
- Sidewalk Safety is an initiative that the committee will advocate for, encouraged by Ex Officio Brandi Matthews to give opinions in Public Comments during Council meetings. Motion made by Vice Chair Shelby Ostendorf to present a letter to the Mayor and Council concerning making sure that the sidewalks Downtown and surrounding areas are safe for walking and for wheelchair accessibility. Member Johnny Holland seconded it. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- Handicap Parking- MCPD will advocate for additional handicap parking in Downtown, make handicap spots more visible, lack of loading/ unloading for wheelchairs/equipment Downtown, more ramps for ease of accessing sidewalks and walkways.

- Volunteer and have an information table at Parks and Recreation sponsored “Day in the Park” being held on May 23rd, 2024.
- Inclusive playground- Liaisons will continue to research and apply for funding for the inclusive playground, will apply for Trillium Health Resources’ inclusive playground grant.

VII. Liaison Report

A. Membership Update:

- Liaison Krystal Fuller informed the committee that three new members were approved and appointed by the City Council to the MCPD they are Joel Bledsoe, Cynthia Green, and Crystal Hill. This brings the committee to its capacity at 16 members.

B. Newsletter Entry

- Liaison Krystal Fuller reported to the committee that the newsletter choice that was decided on, ADA Compliance for businesses, was submitted and will run in the City’s second quarter newsletter to its citizens.

VIII. Committee Member Reports, Comments, Recommendations:

- Chair Wanda Becton informed the committee of an event to end Child Abuse being held at Herman Park on April 10th at 11:00am and encouraged everyone who could to come and support.
- Member Don Willis gave an update of GWTA and encouraged the committee to visit the website and utilize the new digital mascot “Seymour the Bus”.

IX. Adjournment:

Member Pier Protz offered the motion to adjourn, and Member Johnny Holland seconded. All were in favor. Chair Wanda Becton adjourned the meeting at 1:06pm.

***Minutes taken and prepared by MCPD Liaison- Krystal Fuller**