City of Columbia, Missouri

701 E. Broadway
Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes - Final

Thursday, February 8, 2024

3:00 PM

Regular

City Hall
Council Chambers
701 East Broadway
Columbia, Missouri

Disabilities Commission

I. CALL TO ORDER

Jacque Sample called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

(John Bowders, Kieta Clay, Sonya Johnson, Rene Powell appeared virtually)

Staff Present: Adam Kruse, Mike Griggs, Carol Rhodes, Stacey Weidemann

Members of the public appeared in person. No members of the public appeared virtually.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Statement by Chair on Virtual Participation

Jacque Sample makes a statement on virtual participation and reminds participants to keep cameras on.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Members of the Commission wished to amend the agenda to correct the spelling of Stacey Weidemann's first name (should be "Stacey" and not "Stacy") and to move 'Budget Discussion for Commission and New Decision Items' to the top of Old Business.

Vera Elwood made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Dawn Zeterberg seconded the motion. All in favor; motion approved.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DRAFT January 11, 2014 Disabilities Commission Meeting Minutes

Members of the Commission wished to amend the January minutes to correct the spelling of "McDonnell" in Reports for the Airport Steering Committee.

Jonathan Asher made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. John Bowders seconded the motion. All in favor; motion approved.

V. SPECIAL ITEMS

Update from the City Manager's Office and a discussion on the Strategic Plan with Mike Griggs, Carol Rhodes and Stacy Weidemann

Mike Griggs presented to the Commission and discussed the new position in the City Manger's Office of Assistant City Manager that was recently filled. Carol Rhodes and Stacey Weidemann presented to the Commission and gave a general overview of the City's Strategic Plan.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Sanctuary City Ordinance for LGBTQ Persons

Commission members discussed the proposed LGBTQ safe haven ordinance. Members proposed sending a letter of support for the ordinance in that the Commission supports individuals to have a right to make independent decisions for physical and mental healthcare decisions. Some members discussed concerns of insufficient information on the state law and the proposed ordinance to be comfortable voting on the issue.

Jonathan Asher made a motion to send a letter of support for the ordinance. Vera Elwood seconded the motion. 6 members voted in favor of the motion (Jonathan Asher, John Bowders, Vera Elwood, Rene Powell, Jacque Sample, Dawn

Zeterberg). 3 members abstained from voting (Kieta Clay, Ann Marie Gortmaker, Cathy Dolles). 1 member was not present for the vote (Sonya Johnson). Motion passed.

Budget Discussion for Commission and New Decision Item Requests

Jacque Sample provided an update on the existing budget for the Disabilities Commission and discussed the topic of New Decision Items. The Commission discussed New Decision Items that it wished to provide in a report to Council: (1) centralized funding for accommodation requests by employees; (2) sending the City's Diversity Equity Inclusion officer to the National ADA Symposium; (3) disability and accessibility training for first responders; (4) designating sidewalk inconvenience fees to be used for sidewalk maintenance and repair; and (5) a full or part-time ADA coordinator, or protected time for the existing ADA coordinator.

Cathy Dolles made a motion to send a report to Council requesting these New Decision Items for the next budget. Dawn Zeterberg seconded the motion. All in favor; motion approved.

The Commission discussed the existing Commission budget.

Jonathan Asher made a motion to request no changes to their budget for the next fiscal year. Vera Elwood seconded the motion. All in favor; motion approved.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Content of Promotional Materials for the Disabilities Commission

Adam Kruse provides an update that he is still working on the content for a brochure or flyer to promote the Commission's work.

VIII. REPORTS

Future Agenda Items

Jacque Sample provides an update of the Commission's calendar. In March, the Commission discussed it wishes to invite the Ward 2 Council Person as well as the Ward 2 candidates. The Commission will also invite Mike Parks, Airport Manager, to present to the Commission and discuss the upcoming Earth Day Festival.

Chair

Jacque Sample discussed that part of the ARPA funding will be used for transportation services, but there was a concern whether this included accessible transportation. Jacque said that she discovered SIL agreed to provide accessible transportation.

Staff Report

Adam Kruse mentioned that one of the attorneys in the Law Department, Rebecca Thompson, will be the Director of the City's new housing department.

Public Transit Advisory Commission

Dawn Zeterberg said that they met recently but she was unable to attend because she was out of town, so no update.

MU Chancellor's Committee on Persons with Disabilities

Ann Marie Gortmaker says their most recent meeting was cancelled so no update.

Vision Zero Working Group

John Bowders reported that they met on Tuesday, the FY 23 grant includes $225,000 for behavior modification strategies, $180,000 for Road Safety Analysis, and $475,000 for municipal traffic offenders program. The new livable streets policy was adopted. Transit study is ongoing, and there is a roadway improvement tax proposal in 2026.

Airport Steering Committee

John Bowders says the steering committee last met at the open house in January.

IX. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Dawn Zeterberg said that the transit consultant is coming to the next PTAC meeting in March.

Ann Marie Gortmaker provided a reminder that there is a virtual ADA Symposium upcoming.

Cathy Dolles mentioned concerns with passenger hygiene on transit fixed route.

Vera Elwood discussed issues with IEP and 504 plans and accommodations.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

March 14, 2024

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Cathy Dolles made a motion to adjourn. Jonathan Asher seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 4:54 PM.