



City of Seattle

Jenny Durkan, Mayor

Seattle Commission for People with Disabilities

MINUTES (DRAFT)

Seattle Commission for People with disAbilities
Boards and Commissions Room L-280
600 Fourth Avenue, City Hall
Thursday, January 18, 2018, 4pm-6pm

Commissioners Present: Kevin Eggers, Sarah Rothman, Dianne Laurine, Jessica William-Wall, Steve Lewis, Jayson Morris, Diana Chalkin, Shaun Bickley

Commissioners calling in: Nicole Palczewski

Commissioners Absent/Excused/Leave: Cindi Laws, Conrad Reynoldson

Commission Candidates: Dorian Taylor, absent; Eric Scheir, present; Rebecca Craemer, absent

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Steve Lewis

Public Comment

- John Megow speaks about the wheelchair accessible taxi cabs and leaves information and his business cards.

SOCR Report

- Brenda Anibarro, SOCR Policy Manager discussed proposed commission half-day retreat to address, commissioner expectations, communications, and inter-group dynamics.

- Asked whether a second session is helpful to develop the workplan. Commissioners responded that since the workplan development began at the November retreat and the process includes a draft being sent to all ahead of a commission vote, no second session is necessary.
- Brenda reminded commissioners that Facebook posts on the Commission Facebook page should not include partisan events as the Commission's Facebook page is considered a City facility.
 - Brenda introduces Mariko Lockhart, Interim Director of the Seattle Office for Civil Rights. Mariko came to the City from a position with the Aspen Institute and had previously worked for the City of Seattle as the Director of the Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative.

Guest Speakers

- Jennifer Mechem, City of Seattle ADA Coordinator, shares signs that they have prepared for use at City customer service locations to ensure the public is aware they can request assistance. Jennifer would like to get feedback from the Commission on how they can be improved. Commissioners raised concerns regarding lack of contact information, font size, accessibility to blind and low vision individuals. Jennifer notes that they are going to make the font larger and will have them posted up at different locations and address the issue of contact information and that they are putting together a packet of information with contact information and resources to train staff this year and will reach out to the blind and low vision community.
- Mike Shaw, SDOT ADA Coordinator, presents proposed changes that will lead to more curb cuts/ramps in Seattle. He explains the nature of the work that is planned for the pedestrian access network. They will add curb cut components and have the curb ramps done at the same time to streamline

the process. Sidewalks would be repaired if it is related to the work they must do. The process would be streamline by having the curbs and sidewalks all done at the same time. They will be doing outreach to the community and will present to the City Council in the 3rd quarter of the year.

Social Media Policy

- Jayson discusses the social media policy and states that the committee has been working hard on this to prepare a final draft for the next meeting.
- Sara raises concern that the commission was to have voted on the policy at this meeting.
- Shaun discusses his concerns about not having access to Facebook to be able to share committee meetings. Concern that chairs made a decision to remove everyone from access rights to Facebook between meetings and the commission has not had a chance to revisit this decision despite SOCR trying to address concerns with co-chairs. He passes out a document sharing emails and his concerns about the type of postings currently on Facebook.
- Commissioners discuss this at length including concerns regarding how people had been unbanned which caused fear for safety of commissioners.
- Jayson makes a motion to table the issue for a month.
- Kevin suggests allowing a short-term fix by having Shaun and ChrisTiana reinstated as editors, so they could post their committee meetings and then having the operations committee revise the social media policy as needed and have it ready for a vote at next meeting.
- Brenda from SOCR says Kevin's suggestion seems like a reasonable solution given that the co-chairs had agreed the social media policy should be ready to vote on at this meeting.
- Steve does not agree and says a motion has been made to table the issue.

- Jayson makes a motion to table the policy for a month, Steve seconds the motion, one opposed and Commissioners approve the motion.

Committee Reports and Requests

Public Safety Committee - Shaun

- Have been having meetings with CPC Commission and issues and they have been very productive.
- Shaun requests the Commission support SAIL's letter regarding sterilization of disabled women. He informs that other commissions are considering signing on or creating their own letter. Steve also discusses a letter that he drafted. After a lengthy discussion, the Commission could not agree on a position to take. The issue is tabled to the next meeting.

Housing Committee - ChrisTiana

Shares that her housing group that includes the community has drafted their workplan, but it still needs to be typed up. Housing is building a lot of momentum about accessibility of housing and getting great community support. They have another housing meeting planned next month.

Transportation Committee - Steve

Steve shares that he and Cindi are on Transportation and attended the Transit Rider's Union meeting. They discussed wheelchair access on buses. Deon Graham (Metro) agreed and said he would address the issue of access for people using wheelchairs on Metro buses.

Operations Committee

Jayson reiterates that they will bring their media policy back to the Commission next month and have it discussed and voted on.

Employment- Sarah

Sarah discusses community engagement and the things they want to focus on:

- advocate to hire people with disAbilities and have trainings
- Conducting listening sessions and partner with small business
- Creating an award– Jubilee Celebration in July.
- Focus on advocacy of employment “employment first”

Sarah and Shaun are the only committee members.

Sterilization Issue

- Steve gives a summary of the issue:
 - People with disabilities are being sterilized without their permission.
 - 2 positions:
 1. If sterilization is being performed, there must be a process and the person must be represented and
 2. Advocate be there to represent the person in court
- Eric has a question about this issue and discusses what happened to people during a time when they sterilized the Jews and he finds that word offensive and asks if there is any other word that can be used.

- Kevin states that it is a legal term and we should try to limit the use of the word but that is the legal term that is used for the subject matter.
- Sarah has not digested it and would like to take some time for us to hold off on a vote at a later meeting.
- Motion by Sarah, seconded and passes unanimously.

Conference Call-in Phone

Motion by Jayson for SOCR to get a workable phone in the room for Commissioners to call in to meetings. Motion is seconded and passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourns: 6:10pm