

City of Jackson ADA Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

This meeting was held in the first floor Conference Room at the Hood Building located 200 S President Street, Jackson.

Members Present: Ms. Lee Cole (ADA Council Chairperson, Ward 2), Mr. Sam Gleese (ADA Coordinator COJ), Mr. Desmeon Thomas (LIFE of MS/Secretary, Ward 3), Dr. Scott Crawford (Ward 7), Antonio Wright (Vice-Chair, MACE), Sam Miller (Parks and Rec), Mr. Louis Armstrong, (Deputy Director, HCS COJ), Ms. Janice Yancey (MDOT), Herbert Humphrey Jr. (MS Blinded Veterans Assoc.), Pshon Barrett (US Attorney's Office), Aimee Hagen (ward 1, self), Vanessa Eady (US Attorney Office), Jason Bunch (ward 4), O.J. Craft (COJ, Transit Services), Tiffanee Jones (COJ, Dept. of Administration), Jean McKinney (Ward 2), Jacqueline Moore (Jackson Fire Department, Sheila O'Flaherty (Advocate), John Andoh (COJ, Transit Services), Gwen Brown (Arc of MS), Kristen Blanchard (City Attorney Office), Gwendolyn Byrd (Advocate), Pam Dollar (MSCCD), Keishawna Smith (IDS) Velma Johnson (JPD) Eva Clanton (Guest), Carrie Ceach (interpreter)

I. Call to Order

Antonio Wright (Vice Chair) called the meeting of the ADA Advisory Council to order at 1:00 p.m. welcoming all attendees. All Members and guests introduced themselves

II. Approval of Minutes

September ADA minutes were read by Mr. Thomas (Secretary) Dr. Crawford made a motion to accept the minutes with corrections and Mr. Gleese (ADA Coordinator) seconded the motion.

III. Updates/Presentations

Robert Lee (Public Works, Engineering Division) stated that on October 6, 2015 the City adopted an ADA Transition Plan in word and in PDF format. The city reviewed the previous draft and put together an infrastructure plan, they are looking for proactive ways to use the 1% sales tax. Mr. Lee stated that they have looked at several locations that need work. Mr. Wright (ADA Vice-Chair) explained to Mr. Lee that things would go a lot smoother if people with disabilities were involved in the planning. Mr. Lee also mentioned that they have to do some in department evaluations to make sure that everything is accessible and caters to all disabilities. Mr. Armstrong (Human Cultural Services) stated that realistically, funding is not available to expect each department to take on these changes. Aimee Hagan (Ward 1) stated that she was at the City Council meeting, they agreed on the Transition Plan but where is the funding going to come from. Dr. Crawford mentioned that he emailed Mr. Gleese grant opportunities a couple weeks ago. Mr. Gleese replied that he is looking into these grant opportunities. Mr. Lee (Engineer) explained that funding is the challenge; facilities need improvements we are going to have to start the process in looking for match funding. The Transition Plan is approved but we need public input. (Website: Jackson.ms.gov)

Ms. Dollar (CCD) asked if based on public input has major adjustment, would the transition Plan have to go back before the council? Robert Lee answered yes

Mr. Wright asked is there anywhere to look at the plan other than the website? Robert Lee answered no

Mr. Gleese mentioned radio, t.v., newspaper, and social media as other ways to get the public involved. Mr. Lee Left 7 copies of the updated Transition Plan. Dr. Crawford explained that he know the budget issue but we have had 25 years to get things right. Aimee Hagen asked if there is a meeting on the 22nd with JATRAN. Ms. O'Flaherty explained that it may be a presentation of the route for changes.

IV. Old Business

Mr. Thomas (ADA council secretary) read the August minutes. Mr. Thomas made a motion to except minutes with corrections Mr. Wright seconded.

V. JATRAM Improvements, Mr. John Andoh, Jackson Transit Manager

New Address: 1385 HWY 80 West 601-952-1000

Jackson, MS 39209 Mon- Fri. 8am-5pm

Ms. Cole asked if you are having computer problems at JATRAM why not print out a manifest earlier so that riders won't be late for work. Mr. Andoh mentioned that staff realized that they were not using their system to its fullest capacity. Dr. Crawford asked why JATRAM is not using their system to its fullest potential. Mr. Andoh stated poor training; the staff has to be trained correctly. Ms. Smith (IDS) asked who owns the former JATRAM location Andoh mentioned the city of Jackson owned the old facility

VI. New Business

Parks & Rec- Sam Miller explained that the sub-committee meeting will be moved to Oct. 23rd at 1pm. Nov. 1st 2015 Jerry Smith will represent Parks & Recs at our ADA meetings.

VII. Announcements/Remarks

Ollie Lester Has completed 77 courses of Charles Scatter -Life Long Learner

Ms. Barrett announced that the U. S. Attorney's Office is expanding its civil rights enforcement to include violations of the Fair Housing Act such as predatory lending, laws protecting members of the LGBT community as well as its traditional ADA enforcement.

Herbert Humphrey (MIB) Nov. 10th 9am-11:30 Low-Vision tech day

VIII. Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 2:45pm. Next meeting November 4, 2015 at 1pm at the Hood Building

These Minutes were submitted by Desneon Thomas and Approved at the November 04, 2015 meeting.