

ADA Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2013

Attendance/Location

The Jackson ADA Advisory Council meeting was held at the Hood Bldg. Members present: Mr. Jason Bunch, (Ward 4); Ms. Lee Cole (ADA Council Chairperson, Ward 2); Dr. Scott Crawford, (Ward 7); Rev. Sam Gleese (City ADA Coordinator); Ms. Jan Hawthorne, (MS School for the Blind); Mr. Namon Hulitt, (AARP Chapter 850); Ms. Lee Jenkins, (Brain Injury Association of MS); Ms. Ollie Lester, (Addie McBryde Center); Mr. Theo Letman, (JATRAM General Manager); Mr. Johnnie McDonald, (JFD); Ms. Karen Robinson, (Ward 6); Ms. Judy Sikes, (Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities); Mr. Desmeon Thomas, (Ward 3); Ms. Swannie Wilson, (Handilift Program Manager); Mr. Antonio Wright, (MACE); Visitor/Guest: Ms. Evelyn Pittman, (COJ Transit Services); Pam Dollar, (MSCCD); Diana Davis, (COJ Human & Cultural Services); Ms. Ileen Schwartz, (MDOT); Mr. Bul Mabil, (MDOT); and Ms. Dana Pierce, (Brain Injury Association of MS).

Call to Order

- I. Chairperson Cole called the meeting of the ADA Advisory Council to order at 1:05 p.m.
- II. Members and guests introduced themselves. There were 15 voting members in attendance. Minutes of the December 2012 Advisory Council were read by Jan Hawthorne.
- III. Motion to adopt the minutes with amendments were made by Hawthorne, 2nd by Robinson, Minutes were approved. Due to training, there will not be a Transition Plan Report from the Personnel Department.

Updates

- IV. *Mr. Gleese:* Regarding Taxi Regulation Specification, there is a Transportation Committee meeting on 1/14/13 at 3:00 p.m. There was some discussion at City Council on the bicycle helmets. They decided to send this ordinance back to the Transportation Committee for future discussion. Vocational Rehabilitation will work with the City to provide helmets. Ms. Cole recommended that we all say the same thing when we are before the City Council. Ms. Hawthorne suggested ADA Aspects be given to each councilman. Ms. Sikes added the tax incentive for making their business accessible for persons with disabilities. Dr. Crawford has emailed "Easter Seal's Project Action Guide to Accessible Taxi's" to the City. Ms. Cole observed from the hearings that the taxis get enough business from the community that persons with disabilities are not a priority yet we continue to use them.
- V. *Mr. Gleese:* ADA Sensitivity Training is ongoing. December was the last class for the Police Cadets and the Department of Public Works employees were trained. Go Direct begins on March 1st. Only persons 90 & older or living in extreme rural areas will be exempted. Ms. Cole wants to invite The Central MS Planning & Development Committee to come back and speak regarding the future transportation plans. Dr. Crawford stated the law, "The planning process is supposed to take special effort to plan for the needs of older adults and persons with disabilities."
- VI. *Ms. Cole:* Regarding the Calendar of Events, as agencies are making plans, please send your information to Mr. Gleese so that we may develop a calendar and make it available to the membership.

- VII. *Dr. Crawford:* I spoke with Clarence Williams, Director of Human Capital Development at Hinds County; they will be demonstrating several voting machines from various vendors on 1/28-31/13 at the Hinds County Chancery Court Bldg. On 1/22/13, I will be called to testify before the Hinds County Board of Supervisors at the Chancery Court as to why they need to comply with the ADA. It is important that persons from the disability community attend. It's been 22 years; the County doesn't have an ADA Coordinator, Transition Plan or Self-Assessment.

Old/New Business

- VIII. *Ms. Cole:* We want to review the by-laws so that we'll know when elections and other rules apply. Miss Hawthorne reminded us of Ms. Cole's re-election to the chair of Advisory Council early last year. Mr. Gleese stated the two positions: chair & vice-chair of the by-laws. The clerical support is to be provided by the City. However, there is a need to elect a secretary. Any changes must be approved by the Mayor. The change is that the by-laws and this council are embedded in the transition plan that we sent to the federal government. We need to keep an attendance list of voting members. There are three categories of members: 7 Wards, 4 at-large and organizational.

Ms. Hawthorne read the by-laws. The following comments/motions were added:

Article III - We need clarification on transportation for ADA Council members.

Article VI - The ADA Public Right-of-Way is an ad hoc committee that gives input on improvements to the streets, sidewalks, buildings and other city and transportation specifications.

Ms. Cole does not recall signing the by-laws but once all amendments are made, the by-laws shall be signed by the Mayor and current chair since this is an official document.

It was moved by Hawthorne, 2nd by Wright to hold elections for the vice-chair during the February meeting. Motion carried.

It was moved by Hawthorne, 2nd by Wright to amend the by-laws to elect a recording secretary at the February meeting. Motion carried.

Article V - Officers A. shall read: The ADA Advisory Council shall elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson and recording secretary from among council members at the 1st meeting and every 2 years thereafter at the 1st meeting of the calendar year. The vice-chair and secretary to be elected in alternate years.

Announcements/Calendar of Events

The City of Jackson ADA Coordinator is now located at the Metrocenter Mall.

Dr. Crawford has offered a touch tour of Lego Jackson after this meeting on the 2nd floor.

01/16/13 – JATRAN Handlift Meeting 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the Hood Bldg.

01/17/13 – Lego Jackson ends at the Art Center

01/19/13 – ADA Sensitivity Training for the Department of Planning & Development

01/28-31 – Demo of voting machines at Hinds County Court Bldg

02/13/13 – “All Hands on Deck” Disability Day at the Capital 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. sponsored by the Coalition

03/08/13 - Job Fair for military veterans, spouses and dependents at Agricultural Museum

03/20/13 – Job Fair at Trade Mart for the public

06/19-21/13 – The DisABILITY Mega Conference

Next Meeting

The next meeting is Wednesday, February 6, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. in the 1st floor conference room of the Hood Bldg.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

These Minutes were submitted by Ms. Ollie Lester, and approved at the February 6, 2013, regular meeting of the Council.