

ADA Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2012

Attendance/Location

The Jackson ADA Advisory Council meeting was held at the Hood Bldg. Members present: Ms. Lee Cole (ADA Council Chairperson, Ward 2); Rev. Sam Gleese (City ADA Coordinator); Mr. Theo Letman (JATRAM's General Manager); Ms. Karen Robinson (Ward 6); Deputy Chief Johnnie L. McDonald (J.F.D.); Ms. Ollie Lester, (Addie McBryde Center); Ms. Christy Dunaway (LIFE of Mississippi); Mr. Rick Seavey (JPD); Ms. Judy Sikes (MS Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities); Mr. Jason Bunch, (Ward 4); Mr. Desmeon Thomas (Ward 3); Ms. Pam Dollar (Executive Director of the MS Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities); Ms. Jan Hawthorne, (MS School for the Blind); Ms. Swannie Wilson (JATRAM Handilift Program Manager); Mr. Fred Myers; Mr. Carl Allen, (Deputy Director of Planning & Development); Ms. Ruth M. Dobson; Ms. Jean McKinney; Desmond Lindsay; Mr. George Ewing, (City Architect); Mr. Brad Stringer, (JBHM Architect); Ms. Janice Yancey, (MDOT); and Mr. Bul Mabil, (MDOT).

Call to Order

- I. Chairperson Cole called the meeting of the ADA Advisory Council to order at 1:00 p.m.
- II. Members and guests introduced themselves. Minutes of the October Advisory Council were read by Christy Dunaway.

Approval of Minutes

- III. Motion to adopt the minutes with amendments made by Hawthorne, 2nd by Dunaway, Minutes were approved. Mr. Gleese will send a copy of the minutes to all persons with an email address for review.

Updates

- IV. *Mr. Gleese:* The ADA Disabilities Day was an overwhelming success. We had a total of 65 vendors. We are appreciative to Desmeon Thomas for getting flyers to Jackson Public Schools and their participation. The police and personnel report will be done next month. My office is now being moved to the Metro Center. Desmeon went to Murrah to investigate the wheelchair ramps and accessibility issues and he reports that except for the roughness of the ramp, the high school is accessible. There may need to be some signage indicating where the wheelchair ramp is. Cole asked if the sidewalks needed repair to make it easier for students and families to get into the building.
- V. *Mr. Thomas:* Accessibility is more of an issue for the guests that visit the school who are looking for curb cuts. I spoke with Fred Davis, who works for JPS to make modifications to the schools in Jackson. We discussed trying to get a curb cut in the center at the front of Murrah because parking spaces are not easy to see, down the sidewalk. Mr. Davis will see how he can revise some things, put a curb cut in the front and mark them with blue lines. LIFE is available to help with the surveys for the schools. I feel this will be a positive outcome.
- VI. *Mr. Gleese:* The ADA monthly training is going well with LIFE. We did Parks & Recreation last month. There are 56 public parks in Jackson. LIFE will survey the parks so that when the City is making improvements, they will know what accessibility is needed.
- VII. *Ms. Cole:* We still need to get that shelter report from Red Cross. Last year the Red Cross did an assessment of the senior centers to determine what need to be in place to make them ready for emergency shelters in Jackson. We want to make sure our centers are accessible for people that need to be evacuated in an emergency.

Presentation

- VIII. *George Ewing, Landscape Architect for the City of Jackson:* Several projects we are working on that impact the city are: JATLAN bus stops and providing new shelters and benches. We will start with 10 bus shelters hopefully by the end of this month around UMC, VA, St. Dominic's and some transfer stations. We are looking at handicap accessibility, the placement of shelters within those facilities, general traffic flow; where is the best area for the buses to stop, a signalize area with a crosswalk. We have some general sidewalk projects from the ADA Transition Plan.
- IX. *Mr. Brad Stringer, JBHM Architect:* We are in the process of moving forward with the information given from the City, Transition Plan and ADA Advisory Council regarding complaints and hotspots. We are prioritizing them as relates to public right of-way dealing with intersections and curb ramps that the City turned in to DOT. In that Report was listed in priority: community centers, hospitals, government facilities, medical facilities and schools on the public side then private businesses. Each area is mapped with all the signalized intersections, roads, parcels and city buildings. We've taken a half-mile radius from all community centers and hospitals in the City of Jackson and looked at all roads and signalized intersections that fall in those bumpers to see what has been assessed, done and still need doing for accessibility. From the ADA Advisory Council, we looked at the schools and took a quarter-mile radius are JATLAN bus stops and signalized intersections. The bottom line is all inventory and analysis have been done and we have score sheets associated with these intersections. Lengthy discussion continued regarding the three priorities.
- X. *Mr. Stringer:* This is an update. My goal is to have all the information together before Thanksgiving; to have a preliminary draft to George and Mr. Gleese to read and make sure we are all on the same page.
- XI. *Mr. Ewing:* We do have some legal issues. Do we buy a right-away to private property? The Wal-Mart on Hwy. 18 is all private property. You can't mix federal funds with private property.

Old Business

The new 2012 buses for the JATLAN Handilift service are on the streets and management has not received any complaints. There are some new drivers.

New Business

Some members had difficulties with the voting machines in Hinds County and some inaccessible precincts. There is not an ADA Coordinator for Hinds County. Complaints should be made to disability Rights.

Announcements/Calendar of Events

- 11/9-10/12 MSB is celebrating 165 years Homecoming Weekend
11/13/12 City Training for Public Works Administrative Staff at the Art Center, 10am – 12 noon
11/14/12 The Handilift Advisory Committee Meeting

Next Meeting

The next meeting is Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. 1st floor conference room of the Hood Bldg.

Meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

These Minutes were written by Ms. Ollie Lester from the Addie McBryde Center and were approved at the December 5, 2012 meeting.