

**Jackson ADA Advisory Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 4, 2013
Council Meeting Minutes**

This meeting was held in the first floor conference room at the Hood Building which is located at 200 South President Street. members present: Mr. Jason Bunch, (Ward 4); Ms. Lee Cole (ADA Council Chairperson, Ward 2); Dr. Scott Crawford, (Ward 7); Miss Jan Hawthorne, (MS School f/t Blind); Commander Hightower, (COJ Police Dept.); Ms. Ollie Lester, (Addie McBryde Center); Ms. Kimmie Lockett, (JATRAM Handilift); Mr. Desmeon Thomas, (Ward 3); Mr. Elvin Tobin, (JATRAM General Manager); Ms. Jacqueline Washington, (Ward 5); Ms. Shellie Zeigler, (MS Library Commission); Others in attendance: Mr. Carl Allen, Deputy Director-Dept. of Planning & Development Mr. Charles Husband (MDOT);

I. Call to Order – Mr. Gleese called the meeting of the ADA Advisory Council to order at 1:05 p.m. He informed the group that transportation has delayed Ms. Cole but she is on the way. Attendees introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes – The minutes of the August meetings were read by Jan Hawthorne. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Wright, and seconded by Ms. Washington.

Minutes approved.

III. Old Business – Voter ID's for seniors and persons with disabilities. Dr. Crawford attended that meeting and raised the concern with the Secretary of State on public outreach. There is a memorandum of understanding with MDOT Public

Transit and private providers to get free transportation to and from the Registrar's Office. The concern is whether people will hear of the service and use it. Efforts will begin in January 2014 to reach the disable community. Mr. Bunch asked if he needed to get a different ID Card? Dr. Crawford said that any person with a valid state issued ID won't need a different one. This includes student ID, State issued ID's of any kind, military ID's. Ms. Lester asked if there could be a campaign to ensure persons are aware of the voter changes. Mr. Gleese said there is conversation in progress. If persons don't have a valid ID, they may go to the Registrar's Office to get a free picture ID but they will check to see if there is no ID on record.

Mr. Gleese asked Mr. Allen about the Contractor who will speak to the Council about accessible housing. Mr. Allen responded that this Contractor will be available in about two months. He added that there are low-income houses but no accessible houses being built now.

Ms. Cole asked is there a way to target the developers that are restoring apartments. Mr. Allen wasn't aware of any apartments under rehab but will keep the council informed if anything comes.

IV. New Business – Ms. Hawthorne regarding medical office procedure, a doctor's office refused to provide assistance to complete her history form. She was told to reschedule her appointment. They don't seem to understand equal right for all Americans. The medical community needs to be educated about rights for persons with disabilities. We should target the Human Resource Dept.

V. Updates – Mr. Gleese said that the City is doing some work on bus stops. The new JATRAN Building is still pending. Mr. Allen said that we were awarded 5.5 million dollars from FGA for sidewalks, shelters and bus stops.

Dr. Crawford stated there is a new bus stop platform at the corner of Meadowbrook and State Street. It was reviewed with some concerns: both of the curb ramps violate slope rules and the detectible warning is in front of a dip in the sidewalk and should be moved. So that persons who are blind wouldn't walk into the puddle.

Mr. Tobin received information from Mr. George Ewing that the contractor is aware of the problem at State and Meadowbrook.

Mr. Gleese told us of a meeting with the Mayor's Chief of Staff, Dr. Omari, Mr. Tobin, Dr. Dunaway, Dr. Crawford, Ms. Cole, Mr. Raff and Mr. Armstrong to discuss providing late evening and possibly Sunday service through taxi and other vehicles for persons with disabilities. The service could extend to 10:00 week nights and 12 midnight on the weekend. We will need someone to write a grant to assist with this process. Next month, we should have more information.

Mr. Husband asked that before the City contracts with other providers, that you consider MDOT. We have providers in the area who have vehicles, covered insurance and employees who can assist with transportation. Secondly, the medical community should be invited to the Disability Awareness Day and the Mayor should ride JANTRAN on Disability Awareness

Day to get a better sense of the needs of the disabled community.

Mr. Tobin responded that JATRAN is not at their capacity, to get more riders, we will do some outreach and he is encouraged to know that the Mayor supports public transportation. There are some new initiatives for the City.

Ms. Cole added that transportation is an ongoing issue for discussions at future meetings. Mr. Gleese will continue his presentation on the ADA at the next meeting.

VI. Announcements/Calendar of Events

10/05/13 – NFB Pancake Breakfast at Applebee’s on Lakeland

10/23/13 – The ADA Disability Awareness Day at the Metro Center Lower Level, Center Court

10/30/13 – The Senior Health Fair

11/05/13 – The Mayor’s Citywide Senior Appreciation Day

11/08/13 – The MSB Homecoming

VII. The next meeting will be held on October 2, 2013 at 1:00 pm in the Hood Building.

VIII. Adjournment – There being no further business, Ms. Cole entertained a motion to adjourn, Mr. Wright made the motion, seconded by Mr. Thomas and the motion carried.

These Minutes were written by

Ollie Lester and approved at the November 2013 meeting.