

Mayor's Council on Disability Issues

May 13, 2020 Meeting Minutes

I. Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.

II. Present: Allen, Brewer, Brookshire, Davidson, Houston, Huang, Mull, Neely, Orr, Rodgers, Secrest, Shilling, Shipley, Upton, VanDyke

Absent: Loebner, Parr

III. Approval of April meeting minutes: Motion by Brookshire, Second by Rodgers. Motion passed.

IV. Discussion of Sunshine Law: Per the City's law department, CODI will not be able to utilize remote technology for members to attend meetings outside of the context of Covid-19.

V. Committee Reports

Transportation: Did not meet but Secrest provided an update to the City's transportation capacity and efforts during Covid-19.

Bylaws: Body discussed changes to the attendance policy of the bylaws. The bylaws have been clarified and revised to address leaves of absence, and the procedure when a member has consistently missed meetings. Group voted on whether 2 or 3 absences per year was appropriate – there were 8 votes for 2 absences, and 5 votes for 3 absences.

Membership: Membership Committee reviewed and presented three new candidates for vote by CODI body: Miller Foutch, Stacy Spangler, and Joel Simmons. Body voted and accepted all three nominees. CODI also voted on new members for the 2021 term beginning July 2020: Chair: Melissa VanDyke; Vice Chair: Monica Orr; Secretary: Conya Mull.

VI. Strategic Plan Reports:

1. Community Engagement: No report
2. Disability-Friendly Survey: Suspended until further notice
3. Livability: Livability is still working on their survey of accessible public places.

VII. New Business:

Cook discussed adding Dagwould logo to the communication cards for the deaf.

VIII. Announcements & Public Forum:

Monica – With the Corona Virus this is a rough time for elderly people. Some are able to hear what's going on through the grapevine, etc. She recommends that we check on people especially the deaf/blind community. Cook – suggested that Monica send Misha and SBC her ideas and we can see what can be done via the city's side. Neely would like to be in on discussion.

VanDyke – They were talking a few weeks ago at KAEC about trying to come up with resources to help those with mental health and depression issues on social media to connect – would be great to possibly combine the two.

Cook – Knoxville Knox County Planning reached out to her and Pionke and let them know they are in the process of updating the 2013 prevalence of disability in our area report. If any of CODI has resources for data or statistics, please email to SBC or SMB by end of next week.

Huang has been making cloth masks, if anyone in this body wants a mask, please let her know – email her.

Meeting was Adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Submitted by Burke Brewer & Misha Byrne