



Office on the Disabled
City of Saint Louis
Advisory Council Meeting
Room 305, City Hall
January 23, 2012



Minutes

Gina Hilberry as Council Chair called the meeting to order at 9:10 A.M. Members present included Gina Hilberry, Mike Keller, Kerri Morgan, Willie Kimbrough, William Sheldon, and Jane Thomas. David Newburger and Kim Kreitner of the Office on the Disabled were also present. Absent were Wendy Sullivan and Linda Baker.

Minutes from the December 5th meeting were adopted.

The next meeting for the advisory council is scheduled on February 27th at 9:00 A.M. in Room 305.

Emergency Preparedness Update

Projects to be aware of -

A public communications project, funded by Homeland Security money, which will run for two years, starting in about March, will focus on fostering emergency preparedness among people with disabilities in the region.

A project led by the Red Cross to shape training programs to an audience of people with disabilities and then train trainers in the disability community to extend the training to as many people with disabilities as possible, in the region and beyond.

An analysis of emergency operations plans designed by county and some municipalities in the region to ascertain whether they suitably respond to the needs of people with disabilities in the event of an emergency and to recommend improvements in plans.

American Red Cross—Proposed set of trainings that the American Red Cross are designing and want our consultation on for training people with disabilities about emergency preparedness. The Red Cross went and visited numerous organizations and developed training modules. The paperwork in the folders

given to council members contains the draft they have created for comment. Commissioner Newburger would like council members to comment by email or through the advisory council Google group.

Focus St. Louis had a research intern who did a project by going to all of the emergency management agencies and got a copy of their emergency management plans and assessed the needs of people with disabilities. Because of this, we now have a spreadsheet of all the regions (barring St. Charles).

Commissioner Newburger is hoping to have the newly reconvened group, Regional Independent Living Centers (RILC) Committee, look over this information and put out a letter saying this is the report we got from our research and give people an opportunity to comment on it. In addition, this is also newsworthy because of the large gaps in services that exist so it becomes an opportunity for us to get emergency operations plans more focused.

Identifying Problem Sidewalks and Curb Ramps

Commissioner Newburger got a listing from the Street department with twenty properties to check the concrete. Ms. Hilberry is concerned about the low number of permits listed because she pulled four permits and none of those are on this list. Commissioner Newburger has asked that she submit those addresses in order for him to follow up with the Street Department.

Ms. Hilberry will work on getting a more comprehensive list of addresses with known permits to Commissioner Newburger.

Commissioner Newburger stated that the Streets Commissioner was curious as to whether his inspectors were picking up mistakes. Ms. Kreitner and Commissioner Newburger went and looked at four properties and measured cross slopes and all of them were across the board as far as correctness.

Advisory Council volunteers are going out to survey and look at the remaining properties and Ms. Hilberry will concentrate on the "missed" locations.

Curb Cut Data

There was a curb cut cursory review done on all intersections ward by ward and that created tons of hand written paperwork. This was entered into a spreadsheet (17,000 data points) and then it was entered into a summary which is in the advisory council folder. There are some glaring discrepancies such as Ward 1 only having 16 intersections. Commissioner Newburger has asked the Street department to go out and re-do that but they have not responded yet. The

other intersections are likely more consistent. They definitely need to spot check and have the first ward cleaned up. The data was collected in 2008.

Ms. Hilberry would like to pull a random ward and verify how many intersections and ramps exist and compare it to the original study. Commissioner Newburger agreed that this would be useful.

Mr. Keller asked Commissioner Newburger to look into the intersection of 11th and Lynch. He believes that the northwest corner is in need of a ramp. After discussion, both Commissioner Newburger and Ms. Hilberry agree that this is most likely the case and Commissioner Newburger will speak to the Street Department because any place where pedestrians are likely to walk it is the law that a curb ramp exists.

Ms. Hilberry is interested in securing an intern to spot check the data from the curb cut study. She will look into finding someone from the AIA or the construction arena. Ms. Morgan stated that she may be able to locate an Occupational Therapy intern to assist.

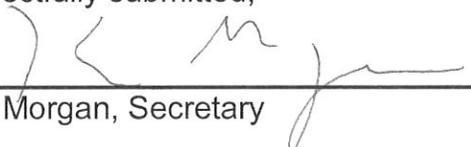
New Business

* Reminder of testing permeable concrete at the Missouri Botanical Gardens on 1/24/12 at 3:15pm.

* City Arch River 2015 Report to the Community on Wednesday, January 25, at 6:00 p.m. in the Ferrara Theatre in the America's Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Kerri Morgan, Secretary