



**Municipality of Anchorage
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT ADVISORY COMMISSION**

SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2014

I Call to Order

A regular meeting of the ADA Advisory Commission was held at 10:34 a.m. on Tuesday, June 10, 2014 in the 5th floor conference room at 825 L Street, Department of Health and Human Services.

II Roll Call

Roll call was conducted; a quorum was in attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	GUESTS
<u>Commissioners</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Barton• Lynne Koral• Christine King• Holli Yancey• Lynn Kenney• Lindsay Davison <u>Municipal Staff</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kristin Troxell, DHHS• Pamela Basler, AERC	<u>Commissioners</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Ziemer, Chair <u>Municipal Staff</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marie Lavigne, DHHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Darrell Hess, MOA Ombudsman• Eric Musser, MOA Transportation Inspector

III Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of Taxi Ordinance under the New Business Section, motion to approve with this addition by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Yancey.

IV Approval of Minutes

The May 13, 2014 minutes were approved as written, motion to approve by Ms. Kenney, seconded by Ms. King.

V Public Comments

None.

VI Guest

None.

VII Municipal Reports

None.

VIII Updates from Chair

None.

IX Old Business

Service Animals – No updates.

Accessibility at the PAC – No updates.

ADA Commission Focus List for Assembly – Discussion re-scheduled for July 9, 2014 at 1:00pm at Access Alaska.

X New Business

ADA Advisory Commission Code Revision – MOA Code Section 4.60.240 - Discussion re-scheduled for July 9, 2014 at 1:00pm at Access Alaska.

25th Anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act Celebration – Darrell Hess explained that the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act is July 2015 and he suggested that in July 2014 the ADA Advisory Board Commission kick off a 1 year educational campaign using social media leading up to the July 2015 celebration event. Suggestion to partner with the Ombudsman's Office, AERC, DHHS, & the Mayor's Office to get the information out to a larger population. The MOA Internal Website (Muniverse) & MOA Public website (Muni.org), Mayor's newsletter, Facebook pages are all good avenues for sharing information. The idea of the educational campaign would be to select a different topic related to disability awareness each month and then develop content to distribute to help educate the public on the topic. The Commission will draft a proclamation to be signed by the Mayor to kick off the one year educational campaign. The Mayor can read the proclamation at an event or at one of the Mayor's weekly press conferences. The Commission needs to develop a plan outlining what the focus will be each month and who will take the lead on developing the content. The Mayors Office and the Anchorage Assembly would both support this work. To reach a larger audience The Chamber of Commerce, Visit Anchorage and The Anchorage Downtown Partnership could be included in participating in the educational campaign. The Commission would need to develop a marketing strategy and then work with Lindsey Whitt, MOA Communications Director, to implement the educational campaign. Lynn Kenney volunteered to write the draft proclamation and forward to Commissioners for review. Kristin Troxell will contact Mary Croxton with the Mayor's Office and request examples of past proclamations that can be reviewed by Lynn while drafting the document. Lynne Koral volunteered to lead the first month, July 2014, with a topic of introduction to the Anchorage ADA Commission and the ADA laws. Kristin Troxell will get a Facebook Page up on the internet to use to distribute the information.

Assembly Work Session – The dates available to schedule the ADA Advisory Board Commission work session with the Assembly are August 1st or 15th. Kristin Troxell will send an email to Barbara Jones to confirm the dates/times. The Commissioners would prefer to schedule for August 1st with August 15th as a secondary option.

Taxi Ordinance – Discussion with Eric Musser, MOA Transportation Inspector, about the taxi ordinance. Discussion came to the attention of the Transportation Commission late in the process of the revising the taxi ordinance to ask all taxis to be universal. The Assembly asked the Transportation Commission to review the request for universal taxis and the

differences between ADA compliant or exceeding the ADA requirements and making all taxis universally accessible. Eric Musser asked if the ADA Commission could work on drafting ordinance language that would exceed the ADA language that the ADA Commission would like to see as part of the taxi ordinance. He would like the ADA Commission to propose language to the Transportation commission and the MOA Transportation Inspection Office that they could then review/revise and put into place. David Barton suggested that making the taxi vehicles as accessible as possible would be a benefit in our community. Design standards need to be brought forward in order to make this happen. The MOA Administration's view is that if the Anchorage taxis are ADA compliant, that is sufficient. Universal design standards for accessible taxis are being requested by the disability community in Anchorage. New York State is going above and beyond the ADA standards. In Anchorage five new accessible taxis were put on the road last fall and only two of the taxis are operating as they were intended. Ten disability taxis are on the road now in Anchorage. Nothing in the ordinance says that the taxis must be on the road during certain business hours. Eric Musser indicated that his office's viewpoint is that no one should have to wait more than 25 minutes for a taxi to arrive. They are working towards that 25 minute wait time. A request was made to the Assembly by the Transportation Inspection Office to extend the Taxi Ordinance reporting deadlines & the universal design for accessible taxis standards out 6 months to be due at the end of 2014. The MOA Transportation Inspection Office works with passenger vehicles that are 15 passengers or less. David Barton asked Eric Musser if he would be willing to assist with a public awareness campaign / educational campaign to hotels on the accessibility of their shuttle vehicles. Eric Musser would be willing to work with the Commission. A motion was made by Lynn Koral to add this topic to the educational campaign the ADA will be kicking off July 2014 and work with the Transportation Inspection Office to develop content. The training piece of the taxi ordinance is being modeled after the Easter Seals training. Taxis can not refuse service to service animals, this is a sensitive issue. If this is an issue for taxi customers, it must be reported to Transportation Inspection Office so that they can resolve the issue. The Transportation Commission will take suggestions on code changes to the Ordinance that would benefit the public. David Barton made a motion for the ADA Commission to research universal design for accessible taxis and submit to both the Transportation Commission and the MOA Transportation Inspection Office.

XI Good of the Order

July 2014 Work Session – The Commission has a lot of work that needs to be done and will need a separate meeting scheduled during July to prepare for the Assembly Work Session and review MOA Code Section 4.60.240 to determine if code changes are necessary at this time. This additional meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, July 9th from 1:00pm-3:00pm at Access Alaska.

ADA Regular Meeting Schedule – Lynn Koral requested the regular meetings of the ADA Commission be moved to a different weekday. Tuesdays no longer work for her schedule.

XII Announcements

None.

XIII Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 am. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, July 8, 2014 at 10:30 am in the 5th floor conference room, at the Department of Health and Human Services located at 825 L Street.