



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

SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES

June 21, 2016

I Call to Order

A regular meeting of the ADA Advisory Commission was held at 10:35 a.m. on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at DHHS Conference 4th Floor Conference Room (825 L Street)

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 Ziemer, Chair• Holli Yancey• Lynne Koral• Lynn Kenney• Lindsey Davison <u>Municipal Staff</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Levy, DHHS	<u>Commissioners</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Christine King – excusedBrittney Howell - excused	Nancy Anderson – MOA Community Safety and Development Manager Krista Stapleford- MOA Summer Intern Jeremy Baker – Fair Housing Project, Alaska Legal Services Susan Shiffer – MOA AnchorRides Pamela Basler – MOA Equal Rights Commission

III Approval of Agenda

The June agenda was approved, motion to approve by Commissioner Davison, seconded by Commissioner Koral.

IV Approval of Minutes

The May minutes were approved as amended, motion to approve by Commissioner Koral and seconded by Commissioner Davison.

V Public Comments

None.

VI) Municipal reports

Jeremy Baker – Fair Housing Project/Alaska Legal Service – Mr. Baker provided an overview of the federal Fair Housing Act. The Fair Housing Act prohibits the denial of housing to a person based on the person's membership in one or more of the classes protected under the Act. The protected classes are race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, and disability. In addition, Alaska law prohibits discrimination in certain instances based on marital status, changes in marital status, and age and Anchorage law provides protection based on sexual orientation.

Mr. Baker provided an overview of the Alaska Legal Services' Fair Housing Enforcement Project. The Fair Housing Project works to eliminate housing discrimination and to ensure equal housing opportunity for all people in Alaska through education, outreach, advocacy, and enforcement. The Project works in three main areas:

- Providing education and outreach on fair housing issues to residents, advocates and service providers throughout Alaska;
- Offering legal advice and representation to individuals who have been discriminated against;
- Conducting fair housing testing to determine possible discrimination based on race, disability, familial status, and other grounds.

The Fair Housing Enforcement Project provides services to members of all protected classes, with special emphasis upon underserved areas and populations including Alaska Natives; immigrants; residents who are non-English speaking or have limited English proficiency; rural residents; persons with disabilities; homeless individuals; and persons residing in areas with large concentrations of people of color.

The Fair Housing Enforcement Project works to educate Alaska residents about their rights under federal, state, and local fair housing laws through trainings, seminars, and conferences. Fair housing trainings and educational seminars conducted by the Project target renters and homebuyers; people with disabilities and their service providers; and local governments, housing developers, property managers, and other housing providers. For more information about upcoming programs, or to see about

scheduling a training or educational seminar for your organization, please consult the calendar or contact the Fair Housing Enforcement Project by email at fairhousing@alsc-law.org.

Also, Mr. Baker mentioned that they are also funded to conduct fair housing testing in Alaska to ensure that everyone has equal access to fair housing in the state. All fair housing services are provided free of charge. There are no income eligibility **requirements**.

Nancy Anderson/MOA Community Safety and Development Manager - Ms. Anderson provided an overview on how DHHS would spend federal Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) grant funds for low-income housing and homeless services and fair housing concerns in Anchorage. Ms. Anderson presented two surveys are being circulated for feedback by DHHS. One survey is for low-income housing and homeless services needs in Anchorage. The other survey is for fair housing concerns in Anchorage. (During Ms. Anderson's presentation, members of the ADA commission filled out both housing surveys).

Susan Shiffer/MOA People Mover and AnchorRides – Ms. Shiffer reported that 750 people participated in the Transit Talks presentations and online survey. A majority of the participants wanted more frequent service. The final results of the report will be going to the Anchorage Assembly next month. Also, Ms. Shiffer reported that there will be minor changes to the People Mover schedule starting on August 1st and there are new replacement AnchorRide vehicles coming up in the fall.

Pam Basler/MOA Equal Rights Commission - Ms. Basler reported that since the sexual orientation provision was enacted by the Anchorage Assembly last year that they have had six cases of discrimination based on sexual orientation filed and they are currently investigating two cases of sexual orientation discrimination. Also, the AERC is working with the MOA on their ADA compliance with technology and language access.

Commissioner Koral volunteered to research other communities around the country to look for best practices for municipal websites and will report back to the commission at a later date.

VII. Update from the Chair:

Commissioner Ziemer did not have anything to report at this time.

VIII) Old Business:

Since the meeting was running late, the Commission postponed discussion of Old and New Business until next month's meeting.

IX. New Business

No new business at this time.

X. Good of the Order

Nothing at this time.

XI Announcements

Nothing at this time.

XIII Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Koral and seconded by Commissioner Kenney. The meeting adjourned at 12:05pm. **The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, July 12th at 10:30 am at DHHS 4th Floor Conference Room.**