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**Minutes**  
**Mayor's Commission on Disability Concerns**  
**September 9, 2019**

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Minutes of the MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITY CONCERNS meeting held on Monday, September 9, 2019, 6:30 p.m., at Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Rd., Board Room, Tempe, Arizona, 85282.

**MEMBERS Present:**

Chair Katherine Schmidt, Ph.D.  
Ben Campbell, Call-In  
Bethany Lien  
Maranda M. Childress, Call-in  
Jeffrey C. Oats  
Paul Kent  
Rene Williams  
Irene Mochel

**MEMBERS Absent:**

Viki Peer

**Guests:**

Robin Arredondo-Savage, Tempe Council Member  
John Federico, Tempe Transportation Commission, VMAAG  
Ruth Ann Strom, Tempe ARC

**Office of Strategic Management and Diversity Staff Present:**

Michele Stokes, ADA Compliance Specialist  
Rosa Inchausti, Strategic Management & Diversity Office Director  
Jonae Harrison, Equity & Inclusion Manager

**Chair Katherine Schmidt, Ph. D.** called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Item 1. Call to the Public.**

No comments.

**Item 2. Review and Approval of Minutes: August 5, 2019 Minutes**

**Motion:** Request approval of the August 5, 2019 CDC Minutes.

**Motion:** Commissioner Jeffrey C. Oats

**Second:** Commissioner Bethany Lien

**Motion carried unanimously, 8 approved, 1 absent,**

**Votes**

\_Y\_ Katherine Schmidt Ph.D.  
\_Y\_ Rene Williams  
\_Y\_ Paul Kent  
\_Y\_ Maranda Childress, Call-in  
\_Y\_ Ben Campbell, Call-in  
\_Y\_ Bethany Lien  
\_Y\_ Jeffrey C. Oats  
\_Y\_ Irene Mochel  
\_A\_ Viki Peer

**Item 3. Presenter: Council Member Robin Arredondo-Savage**

Director Rosa Inchausti introduced Council Member Robin Arredondo-Savage, who discussed several areas that Tempe has worked on to increase disability inclusion:

**Parks.** In a workgroup with Parks, a recreational opportunities catalog was created to help standardize accessible park playground equipment. When playgrounds are replaced, they are made 100% accessible.

**Adapted Recreation.** In working with Adapted Recreation, we saw that their budget hadn't increased in 10 years and the programming was also the same. We worked to increase the budget and the opportunity to ensure everyone has an opportunity to request accommodations in all classes to participate and increased the budget.

**Social Inclusion.** In working with the prior CDC Chair Wendy Dietrich, discussions were held on how to provide better customer service and inclusion to people with disabilities in Tempe. We discussed: What are we doing well and what are we not doing well? What would Disability Social Inclusion look like? What would we need to do it right to get the right results? This boiled down to asking: What does inclusion look like? In developing this, we need to listen to residents and listen to Tempe staff, so we can better serve.

**What's next?** To obtain answers to decide what needs to be done, we want to go on a "listening tour;" first with employees and then with the public. We will start with a meeting or forum with 14 department heads and their frontline staff to discuss structures, accessibility, services and disability social inclusion.

We will invite Commissioners to attend. As soon as we have the date finalized, we will let you know. The meeting will be held in the Tempe History Museum Community Room.

In January 2020, we want to take the "Listening Tour" concept to the community.

In talking about inclusion, Commissioner Jeffrey C. Oats said that improvements in transportation needs to also be discussed. He related a recent Dial-a-Ride incident where the operator hadn't waited even 5-minutes, and was ready to leave, before he got out the door. He asked the operator to wait as he had to get his wheelchair off the battery charger. Then another when he had called in a cancellation and then got a call that afternoon, saying they would be picking him up from the location of the cancelled appointment. He said that the changes to Dial-a-Ride has led to some messy situations.

Council Member Robin Arredondo-Savage, who is now on the Valley Metro Board said she would see what she could find out about the situation.

**Director Rosa Inchausti** introduced **Jonae Harrison, JD**, who is the new Tempe Equity & Inclusion Manager. She previously worked for Chicanos por la Causa and is passionate about fighting for the most vulnerable in the community.

Discussion was held on a few areas of inclusion that have been instituted in the past year or so. These include access for recreation of people with disabilities the master plan for the Tempe Lake, and inclusion in the Urban Core Master Plan. The heart of it is that: Tempe is committed to disability social inclusion in our residents' quality of life.

#### **Item 4. 2020 CDC Priorities – Information for the Annual Report**

The CDC's Annual Report will need to be voted upon at the next meeting. Discussion included the status of 2019 goals, and recommendations for the 2020 goals.

**Status of 2019 Goals.** The completion status of the 12 goals was shared. These goals align with City Council Strategic Priorities 3.13 Disability Social Inclusion and 3.14 ADA Transition Plan. Of the 12 goals, one was addressed internally, and two were not able to be completed to date. The 2019 goal areas focused on: Inclusion, Connections, Quality, Growth, and Financial improvements.

There is an item missing in the 2019 status which should be included in the Annual Report: **CDC is hosting two hearing related opportunities:** Hearing Loss Association of America's - Work Adults Chapter (HLAA), and the nation's first Toastmasters Club for people who have hearing loss: Audible Talker's Toastmasters.

**2020 Goals.** A list showing "Suggested CDC Goals Related to City Council Strategic Priorities" was provided for discussion. The goals relate to each of the five City Council's established strategic priorities and are broader than those from 2019. Commissioners chose all 14 goals to be included in the Annual Report.

Refinements will be detailed in future meetings.

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## **2020 CDC Goals by Council Strategic Priorities:**

### **Safe and Secure Communities**

1. \_\_\_ Review architectural and access plans for Inclusion and Safety
2. \_\_\_ Review Fire's ADA / Emergency Management Plan

### **Strong Community Connections**

3. \_\_\_ Develop relationships with agencies and businesses to facilitate access and inclusion
4. \_\_\_ Participate in planning groups provided by others to facilitate inclusion & access
5. \_\_\_ Share information on the 3.14 ADA Transition Plan process
6. \_\_\_ Staff a table at 2 disability or community events

### **Quality of Life**

7. \_\_\_ Provide information by participating in community events to enhance quality of life
8. \_\_\_ Review & recommend actions to increase equity and diversity to city departments
9. \_\_\_ Review and recommend actions for 3.13 Disability Social Inclusion
10. \_\_\_ Review and recommend actions for 3.14 ADA Transition Plan

### **Sustainable Growth and Development**

11. \_\_\_ Recommend and participate in activities to increase transportation options and access
12. \_\_\_ Recommend sustainable accessible technologies to increase access and inclusion

### **Financial Stability and Vitality**

13. \_\_\_ Encourage and participate in employment opportunities of people with disabilities
14. \_\_\_ Support job fairs, interview opportunities or other organizations' opportunities

**Item 5. Selection/Approval of the CDC Vice-Chair**

Two commissioners volunteered to serve as CDC's Vice Chair: Irene Mochel and Bethany Lien. A ballot vote was taken, and Commissioner Irene Mochel was selected as the Vice-Chair of the Commission on Disability Concerns.

A motion was made to accept Irene Mochel to serve as Vice Chair through December 2019.

**Motion:** Commissioner Ben Campbell

**Second:** Commissioner Bethany Lien

**Motion carried unanimously, 8 approved, 1 absent,**

**Votes**

Y\_ Katherine Schmidt Ph.D.  
 Y\_ Rene Williams  
 Y\_ Paul Kent  
 Y\_ Maranda Childress, Call-in  
 Y\_ Ben Campbell, Call-in  
 Y\_ Bethany Lien  
 Y\_ Jeffrey C. Oats  
 Y\_ Irene Mochel  
 A\_ Viki Peer

**Item 6. Mayor's Disability Awards – April 28, 2020**

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Tempe Mayor's Disability Awards is Tuesday, April 28, 2020. The celebration will be held at the Tempe Center for the Arts, Studio Room, from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. Discussion was held on the categories for the nominations. Decision was made to use the same categories from last year. If there are no nominations in specific categories, that award will not be issued.

Discussion was held on the Disability Award's planning status:

**Mayor:** Confirmed

**Facility Contract:** Confirmed

- Lobby area:** Confirmed: 8 tables for sponsors and city services
- Food Vendor:** "In-house" food and beverage confirmation is pending
- Speaker/Entertainer:** The music provider discussed has schedule conflicts
- 2020 Logo:** Received from Tempe's Public Information Office
- Funds/Fund Raising:** Scholarship funds from Tempe Diablos: \$4200
- Materials:** Fundraising letter, Sponsorship Letter and the Award Nomination applications are online and live at:
- Website:** [www.tempe.gov/DisabilityAwards](http://www.tempe.gov/DisabilityAwards)
- Next:**
- Start publicity.** Save the date cards will be generated for mailing. Research will be completed to outreach to schools and disability agencies.
  - Obtain speaker/ entertainers.** If there are any recommendations for speakers or entertainers, please provide information to staff.
  - Send letters to prior Sponsors.**
  - Confirm Televising by Tempe Chan. 11**

#### **Item 7. Council Chamber Renovation: Overhead Screen Viewing Angle**

Information and diagram were provided from Barrett Jurgemeyer, PE, LEED AP, Project Manager / Senior Civil Engineer from the Engineering and Transportation Department, following up on the presentation provided in a prior meeting.

The side wall and overhead viewing monitor locations will improve screen visibility over the existing locations. Additionally, there will be tablets that will be loaned out at the City Council meetings, upon request, so that visibility can be

further improved. The same four overhead monitors that were previously presented, cannot be relocated or angled differently, and will remain, due to the locations of loadbearing beams.

### **Item 8. Tempe's BEST - Year 2 Renewal Grant Status**

The application has been submitted to Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC). Tempe will be notified before the end of the month of the status.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.**

**Motion:** Request for adjournment:

**Motion:** Commissioner Jeffrey C. Oats

**Second:** Commissioner Bethany Lien

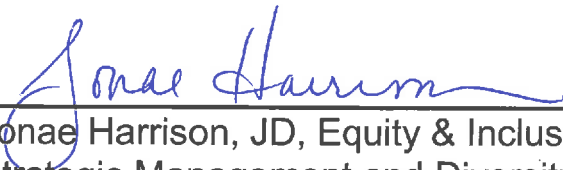
**Motion carried unanimously, 8 approved, 1 absent,**

#### **Votes**

Katherine Schmidt Ph.D.  
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 Viki Peer

Minutes Prepared by Michele Stokes, ADA Compliance Specialist

Reviewed by:



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Jonae Harrison, JD, Equity & Inclusion Manager  
Strategic Management and Diversity Office