



**CITY OF PASADENA
ACCESSIBILITY AND DISABILITY COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2014 AT 4:00 PM
JACKIE ROBINSON COMMUNITY CENTER, ROOM 200**

- I. CALL TO ORDER AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR**
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**
- III. APPROVE MINUTES OF JANUARY 28, 2014**
- IV. REPORT ON NATIONAL AND LOCAL ADA25 ACTIVITIES**
- V. REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS WITH ENHANCING THE CITY'S EMERGENCY PLAN**
- VI. POWERPOINT PRESENTATION ON ACCESSIBLE WEBSITE**
- VII. UPDATE ON PROGRESS WITH COMMISSION OBJECTIVES**
- VIII. DIRECTOR AND STAFF REPORTS**
- IX. ADJOURNMENT**

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**CITY OF PASADENA
ACCESSIBILITY AND DISABILITY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2014 AT 4:00 PM
DRAFT**

Member present: Dolores Gibbs, Dennis Campos, Jennipha Nielsen, Judy Post, John Orr, Michael Warner II, Xilian Chen Stammer (arrived 4:20 pm).

Others Present: Robert Gorski (Human Services and Recreation)

I. CALL TO ORDER AND COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR Dolores Gibbs called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm. Gibbs showed the Pasadena Annual Report for 2013 and said the Mayor's address covered some technology innovation ideas and did not focus on any negatives. Gibbs noted there was no loop assistive listening in the Pasadena City College auditorium, despite it being recently constructed.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA Two commissioners noted that they received MediCal cards thanks to the new health care law.

III. APPROVE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 26, 2013 Jennipha Nielsen moved to approve the minutes as drafted. John Orr seconded and the motion passed.

IV. REPORT ON NATIONAL AND LOCAL ADA25 ACTIVITIES Robert Gorski reported that the ADA25 Legacy Project website uses the logo that the commission created; that he hopes to get the LA Dodgers baseball team to mention accessibility in their program sometime during the season and to show the ADA25 logo on their scoreboard at or near the anniversary date. Gorski also reported talking with a local novelist, who is planning a book that includes a character who uses a wheelchair, and suggesting the novel include recognition of the Americans with Disability Act and its 25th anniversary.

John Orr and Jennipha Nielsen, the commission's ADA25 committee, presented a plan of action and described their intention to underscore the three goals of the ADA Legacy Project: preservation, celebration, and education by creating a brief history of Pasadena's achievements in complying with the ADA and posting it on the City's website and by creating an archive, so the city doesn't forget what has happened

Dolores Gibbs mentioned that the Pasadena Marathon has been discontinued, so it cannot be used to promote AD25, and she noted that her son's school wants to promote accessibility and ADA.

Judy Post moved that the commission approve the continuation of ADA25 ad hoc committee and its proposed plan of action. Jennipha Nielsen seconded and the motion passed.

V. REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS WITH ENHANCING THE CITY'S EMERGENCY PLAN

Robert Gorski reported on the recent meeting of the Enhancement Committee and the status of its discussion on matters related to emergency shelters. The commission discussed alternative ways for getting comments from the disability community on the Enhancement Committee's recommendations.

VI. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON UPLOADING AUDIO RECORD OF COMMISSION MEETING TO CITY WEBSITE

The commission discussed the pros and cons of having audio recordings of commission meetings available over the Internet. Jennipha Nielsen moved that the Commission recommend that the City add a comment to commission's page on the City website and state that audio cassette recordings of commission meetings are available upon request. John Orr seconded and the motion passed.

VII. UPDATE ON PROGRESS WITH COMMISSION OBJECTIVES

Objective 1: Seminar on disaster preparedness.

Dolores Gibbs stated that the preparedness committee members have e-mailed each other about the seminar and are developing the program and updating its agenda.

Objective 2: Four Public Information Events During the Fiscal Year

Jennipha Nielsen is planning to do the first presentation at an ESL class.

Objective 3: Establish a committee to promote planning for the ADA's 25 anniversary
See minutes related to Agenda IV above.

Objective 4: Seminar on accessible website design

The commission agreed that adequate research exists on the types of accessibility issues that commonly occur on Internet websites.; that the commission seminar will not teach how to develop webpages, but instead it will teach accessibility concepts; and that the seminar should focus on city IT staff and department web developers.

The commission recommended that seminar be structured around a list of "Top Ten" issues in accessible web design and that the finished seminar be presented first to city Information technology administrators for their support.

Dolores Gibbs suggested that the conclusion of the seminar include recognition of ADA25.

VIII. REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION ON LETTER REGARDING UN CONVENTION

Dolores Gibbs presented a letter revised to remove any suggestion that the commission recommends the City take action or a vote on the Convention. John Orr moved to approve the letter. Jennipha seconded and the motion passed.

IX. DIRECTOR AND STAFF REPORTS

Robert Gorski reported that a \$125,000 settlement against a landlord in Los Angeles for discriminating against a tenant who is deaf; that another suit that was successful in arguing that loan applications requiring

only individuals receiving disability income to prove future income were discriminatory; that printing 1000 copies of the commission brochure on its current quality paper will cost approximately \$1000 and \$850 on lower quality paper; and that he had conveyed to the department director the commission's comments on the issue of allowing local jurisdictions to stop allowing free-meter parking for individuals with disability placards.

X. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 5:54 pm. The next commission meeting will be on February 25th.

Submitted by Dolores Gibbs, Chair, Accessibility and Disability Commission
Prepared by Michael Warner II, Secretary, Accessibility and Disability Commission

From: John B. Orr
Sent: Saturday, February 15, 2014 11:40 AM
To: Dolores Gibbs; Jennipha Nielsen (jennipha.lauren.nielsen@gmail.com); dsc
Cc: Gorski, Robert
Subject: Update on ADA preparation activities

Dolores, Jenn, and Dennis,

Here's an update on ADA25 activities since our last commission meeting:

1. Robert and I brought together a small advisory group to make plans for initiating an ADA25 Network. We had to have two separate meetings to accommodate scheduling conflicts. The first meeting included Karen Robles (All Saints Episcopal Disabilities Ministry) and Chris Otero (AbilityFirst). The second was with Jackie Scott (Pasadena Dept. of Human Services and Recreation). Robert Gorski and Jackie were facilitators of Network activities during previous ADA anniversary celebrations in Pasadena.

It was agreed that the Commission should initiate (convene?) the ADA25 Network. Our first meeting of the Network will be in April. To identify potential participants, we will use the mailing list of the area's Disability Services Network. Other organizations will be added to this list, especially disabilities-friendly religious organizations and representatives from the Pasadena Unified School District. I will prepare a letter of invitation, on behalf of the Commission, but probably Dolores should sign it.

From my point of view, Robert and Jackie should undoubtedly be asked to function once again as facilitators of the Network. They are experienced, and they have been very effective. The Commission should be present as a participant in the Network.

The purpose of the ADA25 Network, especially in its very early stages, should be (a) to encourage community and public groups to calendar 2015 events (large and small, of all varieties) that celebrate ADA and that raise awareness of disabled people in the Pasadena community; (b) to brainstorm about possible ADA25 opportunities; and (c) to assist in identifying disabled individuals who might be willing to prepare very-brief statements about the difference ADA has made in their lives.

2. I developed a first draft of a 4-page ADA25 brochure. This draft was mainly intended to get us moving, because the Commission ultimately will need to prepare some kind of brochure for distribution to community and public groups. Mercy Santoro expressed interest in having such a brochure, and she offered helpful suggestions. Dolores, Robert and Dennis reviewed the draft and contributed helpful suggestions. Mercy indicated that departmental funding, at least to some degree, might be possible. Robert has secured some rough cost estimates from the City's printing office, and we will need similar information about costs associated with graphic design. Hopefully, funding can be patched together from a number of sources (e.g., the Commission's budget,

departmental support, community organizations, donors, sponsors, commercial printers and designers, etc.)

In light of subsequent discussions, Robert and I agreed that it would be helpful to just move ahead and mock up an 8-page draft. The expanded space would allow for a much more lively content. "Go for the best!"

3. Robert and I agreed to ask the Commission to consider whether some level of funding from the Commission's 2013-2014 budget might be used to produce ADA25 lapel pins and badges ("buttons."). We believe that these will have to be produced at some point, and it would make good financial sense for us to tap immediately-available, time-limited funding sources.

4. There seemed to be agreement among participants in our initial organizing meetings that we should immediately move forward in preparing our brief history of Pasadena's progress in complying with ADA standards--to be linked to the Commission's City web page . This kind of information would help us in preparing the content of our draft brochure and in planning ADA25 media strategies.

I'd appreciate hearing your responses to the above summary of January-February activities and to our provisional decisions. I hope the Commission will have time on its February agenda to discuss these matters.

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DRAFT**

Member present: Dolores Gibbs, Dennis Campos, Jennipha Nielsen, Judy Post, John Orr, Xilian Chen Stammer (arrived 4:20 pm).

Members Absent: Michael Warner II

Others Present: Robert Gorski (Human Services & Recreation), Joy Rittenhouse (Move A Child Higher)

I. CALL TO ORDER Dolores Gibbs called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm. She announced that the commission approved letter on the U. N. Convention on Disabilities was sent to Mayor Bogaard. Jennipha Nielsen moved that the commission send the text of the letter to the other Councilmembers. John Orr seconded, and the motion passed.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT Referring to a recent e-mail sent by a resident to Councilmembers and City staff that advocated for accommodations for people with hearing loss, John Orr commented that the City has made significant accommodations and that more needs to be achieved. He hoped that the Wright Auditorium will be studied as a possible priority for installation of a loop assistive listening system, and he remarked that the recently constructed auditorium at Pasadena City College should be checked for the availability of assistive listening.

Joy Rittenhouse of Move A Child Higher briefly described the organization's therapeutic riding program for children and adults, progress in developing its site in the Hahamongna Watershed, and expectations for increasing hours of service. Rittenhouse also praised the Americans with Disabilities Act for helping to improve the public's and the City's attitudes to the value of therapeutic riding for people with disabilities.

Jennipha Nielsen reported she had encouraged a resident of District 3 to apply for the District's vacant position on the commission.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES Jennipha Nielsen moved to approve the minutes of January 25 as drafted. Xilian Stammer seconded, and the motion passed.

IV. ADA25 ACTIVITIES John Orr reported that meetings with several leaders in the disability community elicited support for developing an ADA25 Network of organizations and individuals interested in exploring a variety of ways to celebrate the ADA's 25 anniversary in 2015. An initial Network meeting will occur in late April.

Commissioners discussed ADA25 activities and resources it might sponsor and agreed to consider using funds from this and the upcoming fiscal year to support its ADA25 activities.

V. ENHANCING EMERGENCY PLANNING Dolores Gibbs reported that the commission's Preparedness Committee had not yet met to consider whether it should continue to focus on planning for emergency shelters or shift its focus to other aspects of emergency planning.

VI. ACCESSIBLE WEBSITES SEMINAR Xilian Stammer presented the first draft of a PowerPoint presentation intended to educate IT personnel about designing websites to accommodate the limitations of various disabilities. Commissioners provided suggestions for improving the presentation and agreed to review the digital file of the presentation that had been sent to each commissioner and provide additional input.

VII. PROGRESS ON COMMISSION OBJECTIVES Tabled to next meeting.

VIII. DEPARTMENT REPORTS Robert Gorski reported that four members of the Hearing Loss Association conducted a test of the three loop assistive listening systems at Jackie Robinson Center and found two systems worked fine and one had issues with clarity of sound and low volume. The Association members recommended improved training for staff and improved public signage about the availability of assistive listening at the Center. Gorski also reported that Human Services & Recreation had submitted proposals to the City for CDBG funding to improve access to Jackie Robinson Center restroom and to install four loop assistive listening systems in Villa-Parke Community Center.

IX. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Submitted by Dolores Gibbs, Chair, Accessibility and Disability Commission
Prepared by Robert Gorski, Human Services and Recreation