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**CITY OF PITTSBURGH
ADA Strategic Planning Team
July 7, 2011
MINUTES**

Location: First Floor Conference Room
Civic Building, 200 Ross Street

Members Present: Ron Deutsch from Department of Parks and Recreation, Darnell Griffin-Benton from Urban Redevelopment Authorities, Dawn Jakomas from Equal Opportunity Review Commission, Ryszard Janik from Department of Public Works, Patricia Melendez from Bureau of Police, Regina McDonald from Policy Department, Richard Meritzer ADA Coordinator from City Planning, April Schillinger from Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority, Connie Zatek from Human Relations Commission

Members Absent: Anthony Boule from Parking Authority, Lauren Beck from Bureau of Building Inspection, Roy Cox from Emergency Medical Services, Eric Miazga from CIS, Sherilyn Mannion from 311, Sandra Stewart from Housing Authority, Jason Zollett from Law Department

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Meritzer at 2:00 PM.

FOLLOW-UP FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

ADA office has the notification of interpreting and captioning contract for public meetings sent out to the directors of other department.

ADA office will start to put the redacted minutes online once it is approved by the committee.

Web-base survey will be further investigate and discussed in the next meeting.

ADA COORDINATOR'S REPORT: FACILITY SURVEY

ADA office was involved into a facility asset management program about one year ago and began to evaluate facilities. ADA office functioned in two pieces. They did survey for the facility asset management program as well as for the disability community. For this reason, ADA office conducted facility survey both on own and with the program. For disability community, the focus issue is structural and electronic related. While for the program, it focused more what facilities are repairable, what are not worth repairing, what needs to be held. This summer, he had 2 high school student sponsored by FAME to

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do work on that. High school student did facility survey and their task is to make sure everything is accessible. Besides, they also converted the survey in old format to a new one. Therefore, by the end of the project, ADA office will accomplish a complete checklist based on federal law. The checklist may be about thirty pages or more.

City Pools accessibility issue was discussed in the meeting. The only accessible pool is the Bathhouse. Some pools don't have a lift which is fully accessible, but they provide ramps. ADA office got incredible support from the City Parks, the Department of Police and the Department of Emergency Medical Service in the facility survey.

Concerning senior centers, ADA office will have Department of Parks and Recreation reviewed the report and made comments through the process.

ADA office is available to report either during the process of facility survey or after the final report is finished. The final changes will be made depending on the cost and budget. With regard to the grant of wheelchair carrier, an intern in ADA office is working on that, writing for transport grant. For audible traffic signal grant, Lions Club South Side has already promised all audible traffic signals in South Side. The traffic signals in Oakland operate in different ways. ADA office hopes to replace all of them into new and make it all accessible and consistent. There are still some signals in downtown are not accessible. Public Works have done a great job to make sure all new signals they get are accessible. Depending on the cost of replacing the good-quality signals, it will bring new technology where the new grants will come in.

ADA office welcomed any comments, questions on surveys.

Pittsburgh Park Conservancy put together a project to evaluate Schenley Park including accessibility on his own. They are selecting consultants. Once the report is finished, ADA office will have the committee reviewed. The consultant will do the evaluation of Schenley Park. The Pittsburgh Park Conservancy is responsible for that.

Regarding the specifications of ADA, there are two versions, 1991 version and 2010 version. By March 15, 2012, only 2010 version is effective. One concern is made that people who were involved in the survey should know that difference. ADA office uses the form in 2010 format.

REDACTED MINUTES

Redacted minutes were reviewed and it will be put online if there is no comment by Tuesday (July 12th).

ACCESSIBLE PGH

Accessible PGH is a Public Service Announcement which is initiated to publicize the work of the City and get people knew what is happening in the City. Accessible PGH began with an intern who had experience with media and the first show was shot about

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hospital compliance manual. It was a 5 minute show on Pittsburgh Cable. ADA office has it captioned and interpreted and will send it to CIS as a filler. The next show is about One Step Packet, which includes requirements, fee waiver, and lots of funding sources business could utilize to make their stores more accessible. Besides on Pittsburgh Cable, the show will be put on ADA web page.

ADA office is seeking the ideas of Accessible PGH from the committee.

One idea came up from Department of Human Relations is the investigation by Commission on Human Relations about complains of discrimination in housing as well as employment. It would be a good idea to talk about what you will do if you feel discriminated in housing because of disability.

Another topic for Accessible PGH from Department of Police is the training of the police of how to communicate with the deaf and hard-of-hearing people.

The script will be agreed by both speakers, and will be sent to CIS. The taping will be whole morning. It will be scheduled soon.

OPEN DISCUSSION

2011 National Veterans Wheelchair Games will start July 31st and it is that whole week. Every year, the veteran's administration and DAV jointly sponsors a week athletic events for veterans with disabilities. This year, 600 athletes with their families are estimated to come. They will be given debit cards to dine in local restaurants. A week before the game, the facility accessibility of the games will be double checked.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM