

Office of Equity & Civil Rights
Mayor's Commission on Disabilities
Meeting Notes
March 23, 2022

Participants:

1. Adam Levine – Law Dept.
2. Aloma Bouma – National Federation of the Blind
3. Brenda P. Haynes – Access Committee
4. David Greenberg – League for People with Disabilities
5. Dianne M. Blevins - Citizen
6. Jack Elam – Housing Authority of Baltimore City
7. Janice Jackson – Consumer Advocate
8. Keina Overton – BCDOT
9. Kimberley Grade – Employment Committee
10. Martin French – BC Planning Dept
11. Matthew Reeds
12. Michael Trentadue – Accessible Tech Pro
13. Richard Wright – Risk Management
14. Rochelle Purnell - BCHD
15. Sharon E. Moore – Citizen
16. Velma Boykins-Early – Access Committee
17. Willie Fields - Consumer
18. Yojinde Paxton - BCPS

Guests

19. Tim Wiens – Maryland Inclusive Housing

Office of Equity and Civil Rights staff:

- a. Caylin Young – Deputy Director
- b. John Wesley – Public Information Officer
- c. Lisa Kelly – Chief of Investigations
- d. Sharonda Huffman – Access & Compliance Coordinator
- e. Hugh Scoggins – Program Compliance Officer
- f. Robin Drummond – Special Assistant

I. Welcome/Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order by Ms. Sharonda Huffman at 1:05 pm.

II. Guest Speaker

- a. Tim Wiens, Executive Director
Maryland Inclusive Housing

- i. Mr. Wiens gave updates on his work, advocacy, and the housing partnership with the Mayor's Commission on Disabilities.

III. Director's Report

Deputy Director Caylin Young

a. Updates

- i. Deputy Director Young has submitted an additional name to the City Council for consideration to the MCD Board. He will follow-up on the status of that submission.
- ii. Amending the Statute
 - He spoke about the structure of the Commission.
 - The Statute is under review.
 - He welcomes any feedback from members of the Commission.

b. Staff activities

- i. Mr. Hugh Scoggins and Ms. Sharonda Huffman received training by the ADA Training Leadership Network.
- ii. Disability Rights Maryland partnership
 1. ASL interpreters will be available in the future as the office transitions to hybrid work
 2. The Office of Equity and Civil Rights will be hiring full-time staff for ASL services.

IV. Approval of the minutes

- a. The February 23, 2022 minutes were approved.

V. Commissioner's Report

a. Transportation Committee

- i. Ms. Janice Jackson is working on scheduling a meeting with MTA Mobility
 - 1) Potential dates are for April
 - 2) Ms. Jackson will follow-up
- ii. Ms. Huffman spoke about Dockless Scooters
 - 1) Meg Young would like to meet with MCD to come try out the accessible bikes and scooters
 - 2) Ms. Huffman will follow-up and send information to Meg Young
- iii. Mr. Scoggins and Ms. Huffman will attend a Complete Street Advisory Committee meeting on March 28, 2022 at 2 pm. The purpose is to make transportation more accessible.
- iv. Ms. Aloma Boma will meet with the National Federation of the Blind Baltimore Chapter regarding pedestrian signals. There will be a follow-up meeting on the types of Dockless scooters available. Ms. Huffman will follow-up with Meg Young.

b. Legislative Committee

i. Legislative Bills

- 1) SB93 – Tax Credits - Employment of Individuals with Disabilities¹
- 2) SB235 – Income Tax - Personal Exemption - Disabled Individuals²
- 3) SB23-HB141–Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses³
- 4) HB1020-SB868 - Developmental Disabilities Administration - Self-Directed Services (Self-Direction Act of 2022)⁴
- 5) HB78 – Discrimination in Employment - Reasonable Accommodations for Applicants with Disabilities⁵
- 6) SB625-HB1026 – Transportation of Persons with Disabilities - Transportation Network Companies - Employee Requirements and Study⁶
- 7) SB617-HB547 – Local School Systems - Equivalent Access Standards - Digital Tools (Equivalent and Nonvisual Access Accountability Act for K-12 Education)⁷

- ii. Ms. Bouma would like to work with the Legislative Committee. She commented that in the NFB, they are working on accountability for accessibility and digital services for students

c. Employment Committee

- i. Ms. Jackson asked about Employment for Individuals with Disabilities (EID). Mr. Levine will look into it.
 - ii. Ms. Huffman and gave updates on Board of Elections.
 - iii. Mr. Willie Fields would like to see more work on entry level positions.
- d. Ms. Huffman would like the Commission to work on developing the Committees.

V. Open Forum

- a. Ms. Velma Early announced that today is her last day. She is retiring.
- b. Next meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2022 via Zoom.

There was no further business to discuss.

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Sharonda Huffman adjourned the meeting at 2:31 pm.

¹ <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/SB0093>

² <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/SB0235>

³ <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/SB0023>

⁴ <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/HB1020>

⁵ <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/HB0078>

⁶ <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/SB0625>

⁷ <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/SB0617>

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Respectfully submitted,

Robin Drummond

Special Assistant

Office of Equity and Civil Rights