

**City of Glendale  
Commission on Persons with Disabilities**

**Regular Meeting**

**Glendale Main Library  
Board Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 5959 West Brown Street**

**February 15, 2011  
6:00pm**

Members Present: Terry Aramian, Gary Charlson, Shirley Galvez, Robert Steiger, Laura Hirsch, Raymond Yaeggi, Adonis Deniz, Sr., and Mounib Shabban, Chairperson

Member Absent: Karin Kellas

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:00pm.

Guest Speaker

Mr. Tom Henninger, Disabled American Veterans.

Mr. Henninger provided some background information regarding the Disabled American Veterans and himself. He stated there are about 3,400 members of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), with approximately 1,100 of those members being from the City of Glendale. The DAV was established in 1972. He said they offer many great programs and he is a participating disabled member himself.

He noted the DAV supports the local food banks as well as the City of Glendale CAP Office. He added the DAV has worked with Wounded Warriors. Through fundraising, the Wounded Warriors were able to purchase a van this year to be used for transportation.

He said there are many VA hospitals and clinics in the state. Mr. Henninger explained veterans are in need of transportation to and from hospitals and doctors' appointments. He said van rides are provided to the veterans and they run from state line to state line. He explained the Ford Motor Company sells the vans at half the retail price to the DAV. Vans are also made handicapped accessible. The life of each van is approximately one a one half years and will reach about 300,000 miles. There are volunteers who drive three days a week for six hours a day, transporting our veterans to and from their destinations. These volunteers drive all over the state and each has much compassion for their position as a driver as well as for the clientele they are providing services. He said as long as you are registered through the VA you qualify for this program. Mr. Henninger said they are here to help and want to help the veterans of American.

Commissioner Galvez asked about the cost. Mr. Henninger said it is based upon your disability and what caused the injury or disability. He explained each veteran would have to take a Means Test to establish the veteran's financial threshold which would determine the amount charged.

The Commission thanked him for his time.

Approve of Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2011

Chairperson Shabban called for a motion.

The Commission briefly discussed changes to the minutes.

**Commissioner Aramian made a motion to approve the minutes as revised. Commissioner Yaeggi seconded the motion, which was approved 8 to 0.**

Old Business

59<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Evergreen – crosswalk-update

Chairperson Shabban stated some progress has been made regarding the crosswalk located at 59<sup>th</sup> and Evergreen avenues.

Commissioner Aramian stated it is very difficult to see the crosswalk.

Commissioner Yaeggi indicated additional signage has been erected on both the east and west sides of 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Chairperson Shabban said a future “Did You Know” might advise citizens and interested parties to contact the Disabilities Commission with problems, questions, and concerns which will be addressed by the Commission.

Glendale Elderly -

Commissioner Yaeggi stated he attempted to make a connection with his contact, and was informed he had relocated to Tucson, Arizona. Commissioner Yaeggi said he will make another effort to establish communication with another representative.

Website – 2010 visits

Chairperson Shabban introduced this item. Commissioner Hirsch stated there were 4,623 hits to the Disabilities’ webpage.

Chairperson Shabban suggested that Commissioner Galvez be in charge of coordinating any speakers that present before the Commission. The Commission agreed and Commissioner Galvez will assume responsibility for contacting any future speakers.

New Business

2010 Annual Report –

Chairperson Shabban called for this item. He explained the report should include all the Commission’s accomplishments as well as suggestions. He suggested the Commission review the 2010 Annual Report, distributed by Commissioner Hirsch, and return to the next meeting prepared to take action.

Other Business From The Floor

Commissioner Galvez suggested the Commission send their thanks to Ms. Charters regarding the purchase of the name badges. She said individuals see the badge and recognize she is a board member quickly, which allowed her to easily access the meeting room this evening.

Commissioner Hirsch reminded everyone that a photograph will be taken at the March meeting and she asked that everyone come prepared to be photographed.

Next Meeting – March 15, 2011 at 6:00pm

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diana Figueroa