

**CITY OF TULSA  
MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON THE  
CONCERNS OF TULSANS WITH DISABILITIES  
MINUTES  
AUGUST 25, 2009**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rhona Davis Susan Lively  
Robert Moore Dr. Sandra Massey  
Roger Coffey Vickie Holler  
Nathaniel Waters Darrell Gilbert

**HUMAN RIGHTS DEPARTMENT  
(HRD) STAFF PRESENT:** Dr. Turner-Addison Willene Leffall  
Rod Wade

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Glenna Cooper Pam Mazie  
Swarna Singhal

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Commissioner Waters called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF JULY MINUTES:**

Commissioner Waters called for approval of the July minutes. A motion was made by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Gilbert for approval of the minutes with corrections. *Motion carried*

**III. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS & ORGANIZATIONS:**

**1. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Committee:** Commissioner Davis asked for any updates regarding closed captioning. Willene replied there is no update other than the Council is still looking for funding. Commissioner Coffey stated that Councilor Patrick indicated there was a positive attitude towards implementing closed captioning but there is no funding for it this current year. There was a brief discussion on when the Council would approve next year's budget. Commissioner Coffey recommended sending a support letter to Council to include closed captioning before the budget is approved. There was a brief discussion to send a support letter to a City department that reviews the budget and to prepare the letter by December for the Commissions approval. Commissioners Coffey and Waters suggested that Commissioner Cooper draft the letter. There was a lengthy discussion to possibly invite a professional to educate the Commission on closed captioning and include the visit in the support letter.

**Members of ADA Committee:**

Glenna Cooper Pam Mazie  
Nathaniel Waters Rhona Davis

**Roger Coffey            Robert Moore**

- 2. Grievance Committee:** Commissioner Davis asked for an update on Tulsa Public Schools (TPS) attending a Commission meeting. Willene Leffall replied a representative from TPS will attend the next meeting; Dr. Guinn is no longer with TPS. There was a brief discussion on TPS's new Executive Director of Special Education, Andre Williams attending the meeting.

**Members of Grievance Committee:**

**Pam Mazie            Roger Coffey  
Rhona Davis**

- 3. Employment Committee:** Commissioner Waters reported Kelvin Batten with Advance Placement Solution (APS) would like to speak to the Commission next month regarding his work with individuals with disabilities. Commissioner Waters stated that Mr. Batten assists with job placement for individuals with disabilities and understanding social security benefits. Two members were added to the Committee.

**Members of Employment Committee:**

**Robert Moore        Nathaniel Waters  
Vickie Holler**

- 4. Long-Range Planning Committee:** Two members were added to the Committee.

**Members of Long-Range Planning Committee:**

**Pam Mazie            Glenna Cooper  
Susan Lively        Vickie Holler**

- 5. Public Information Committee:** Commissioner Davis recommended writing an appreciation letter to Mayor Taylor for nurturing and getting the Commission revitalized. Commissioner Waters volunteered to draft a letter by the next meeting for the Commission's review. Commissioner Lively recommended writing a survey letter to mayoral candidates regarding Commission concerns and suggested that members come up with questions for the survey.

**Members of Public Information Committee:**

**Pam Mazie            Swarna Singhal  
Nathaniel Waters**

- 6. By-laws Committee:** Willene stated that other Commissions are in the process of reviewing their by-laws to ensure they coincide with Title 5 Ordinances. Commissioner Massey reported the Committee is still in the process of making recommendations to revise the current by-laws and will meet with Willene.

**Members of By-laws Committee:**

**Swarna Singhal      Sandra Massey  
Darrell Gilbert**

**IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Willene announced the ADA Coordinators training has been rescheduled to Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00 pm at the Center for Individuals with Physical Challenges located on 816 South Utica. Members are encouraged to attend.
- Commissioner Waters asked if there were any updates regarding the zoning for group homes proposal. Commissioner Gilbert stated the last public hearing was an eye opener for everyone in regards to why the issue was brought forward; currently some revisions are being considered and meetings are being held regarding the issue. There were concerns of the issue being code enforcement parking instead of group homes. Commissioner Coffey commented on the significance of group homes reducing home owner's property value. Commissioner Holler commented on the group homes issue impacting residential care facilities.

**V. ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Waters entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:36 p.m. Commissioner Massey so moved and Commissioner Holler seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**