

MAYOR'S ROUNDTABLE ON DISABILITY ISSUES

Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2016

Present: Mas Sala, Michael Adamus, Mayor Sinnott, Jessica Molczan, Bill Doupe, Kim Brown, Michael Fiorelli, Chris Cowan, Dawn Sokol, Passle Helminski, Veronica Fields

(PLEASE NOTE: The Mayor's Roundtable meeting scheduled February 11, 2016 was canceled due to inclement weather.)

1). Welcome

Meeting was opened by Mas Sala welcoming everyone in attendance. The sign-in sheet was circulated for signature by those present.

2). Guest Speaker - Bill Doupe - (Winds of Change)

Mr. Bill Doupe discussed accessible trails that will be constructed at the new dog park - He explained that he could provide consultation services to the City or any other entity interested in building accessible trails.

Mr. Doupe also inquired as to whether the development of the planned accessible trail at the dog park, will allow for water to drain off of the path efficiently.

(Update: Upon discussion of Mr. Doupe's inquiry into proper drainage of water off the accessible trail - the City Engineering office reports that all of those factors have been addressed and have already been considered in the construction of the accessible trail)

3). Subcommittee Reports

Emergency Services Subcommittee

(Michael Adamus)

(Chairperson needed!)

Michael Adamus (Chairman) announced his resignation as Co-Chair of the Mayor's Roundtable on Disabilities as he will be relocating to Florida circa August of this year (2016). Of course, we all wish Michael the very best and remain appreciative of all that Michael has done for the Mayor's Roundtable and the community as a whole. Thank you Michael!

Michael also provided a comment and concern with regard to the difficulty encountered in retrieving a ticket – that the parking ramp ticket machine dispenses - when utilizing Erie Parking Authority parking ramps.

Education/Diversity Training/Employment
(Chairperson needed!)

The Education/Employment sub-committee remains temporarily suspended at this time and in remains in search of a Chairperson. If you have interest in leading this particular sub-committee, please let me know (Mas Sala at msala@erie.pa.us).

Accessibility/Mobility/Transportation
(Passle Helminski)

Passle Helminski (Chairwoman) encourages members to contact Disability Rights PA regarding Erie Para transit services – specifically, the fear that Para transit services could be disrupted in light of the existing conflict.

Passle provided a phone number and encourages members to call: 1-(800) - 692-7443
Ext.: 400.

Additionally, APS Push-buttons will also be installed on East 38th Street – between Old French Road and McClelland. They will also be installed at Bayfront and State.

These sites are in addition to the 12th and Greengarden location and the 6th and French Street location.

Housing/Homelessness
(Mas Sala)

Mas Sala (Chairman) reported that the subcommittee continues to encourage and promote development of Fair Housing activities. The CDBG funds remaining balance for Fair Housing activities are approximately \$7,600. If the production of a Fair Housing video comes to fruition, the available CDBG balance remaining would be approximately \$3,500.

For further details regarding submitting an application/proposal as well as CDBG fund balance – you may contact **Debra Smith, Grant Administrator** (Erie Department of Economic and Community Development) for further details. Debra can be reached at (814) 870-1274 or dsmith@erie.pa.us

4). **Open Comments**

Michael Adamus thanked Mayor Sinnott for consistent attendance and involvement with the Mayor's Roundtable on Disabilities. Michael conveyed gratitude for the Mayor's support and allowing individuals with disabilities to be heard and issues to be addressed.

All others present at the Roundtable meeting shared similar sentiments with Michael, during the meeting, and all wish Michael the very best.

5). **Mayor's Remarks**

Mayor Sinnott acknowledged and complimented Michael for all that he has done for the Roundtable as well as the community as a whole. Mayor Sinnott wished Michael the very best in his future endeavors.

5). **Meeting Schedule for 2016**

- August 18, 2016
- November 10, 2016

FINAL NOTE: I encourage and welcome anyone to submit a letter of interest for the position of Mayor's Roundtable Co-chair - along with a brief explanation of various roles you have served - and any other information you feel is relevant and pertinent -

All meetings begin at 2:00 pm and are held in the Conference Room (2nd Floor) at the Intermodal.