

CITY OF PEORIA
Mayor's Advisory Committee for Citizens with Disabilities

MINUTES

May 14th, 2024, at 4:00 PM Call to Order

Staff Liaison Green called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

Roll Call

Present: Chair Peterson; Vice Chair Berry; Committee Member English; Committee Member Muehlbauer; Committee Member Gathers (by zoom per OMA- majority quorum vote joined remotely); Committee Member Saha; Staff Liaison Green.

Not Present: Committee Member Srivnivas; Committee Member Peebles.

Quorum Established.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve the February Meeting Minutes made by Committee Member Saha and seconded by Chair Peterson. All in favor, motion carries and the February meeting minutes are approved.

New Business

- I. Introduction of Committee Member Susmita Saha who has worked in the educational system and specifically with students with learning disabilities. She has researched neurological conditions and effective teaching and learning methods at various educational institutions and she brings a wealth of knowledge in those areas.
- II. CityLink Employees/ Contractors Introduction and Presentation By:
 - a. Carla Jackson: Transportation Specialist
 - b. Dr. ShamRA Robinson: Director of Community Engagement and Public Relations
 - c. Kofi Kesseh: Assistant General Manager
 - d. Angel Marinich: Consulting Services for City Link

Dr. Robinson will make sure she forwards the presentation to the group for reference.

- III. Final Discussion re: Quality Assurance/ Transparency and Quality Control

Committee Member Peterson: Emails and respectful communications are central to our communications going forward.

Committee Member Muehlbauer: Where is the line crossed between OMA official business?

Staff Liaison Green: The purpose of not having substantive discussions with a majority of a quorum is to avoid conducting official business. Anything that could have been an official action that was not properly noticed up to the public may be a violation because the public is entitled to notice. There are strict guidelines that are necessary when posting agenda and minutes.

Committee Member Gathers: We are talking about transparency which is out of context because we do not have anything to speak about regarding the transparency issues. As long as it is in the context of something we are doing, then it is fine. A circular conversation about things that are not progressing anything is a waste of time for the group.

Committee Member English: The proposition for transparency was intended for open meeting dialogue. The concern is that we need to be able to communicate outside of the meeting in order to have a productive meeting. There are things that can be updated and we need to be able to ask questions and give progress reports as a committee. Between meetings there needs to be transparency. Committee member English would like to know what other committee members would like to do without hearing about it second hand. Second hand means from Chair Peterson, per Committee Member English.

Committee Member Muehlbauer: There is a difference between dates and events, etc, but when we come to back and forth decisions, that is where the line may be crossed by going back and forth.

Chair Peterson: The Quality Assurance issue has seemed to monopolized the meetings which has inhibited our time to work on items related to this committee.

Staff Liaison: I do not have a vote in this but my responsibility is to try to keep the committee on track. That is why I distributed the last ordinance that sets forth the charge from the Mayor and Council. It is not that we do not need to be transparent, but that conversation has taken up most of the time for this group.

Committee Member Gathers: The mission is becoming transparency, instead of what the actual mission is.

Chair Peterson: There is a difference between comprehension and some emails have been condescending.

Committee Member English: There has been no discussion since the last meeting regarding the items she desires to focus on. There is no comprehension by committee members, so there is no discussion. Committee Member English asserts that misinterpreting her tone is very discriminating.

Committee Member Gathers makes a motion to vote on the item of ending the conversations surrounding QA, Transparency, and Best Practices. Motion seconded by Chair Peterson.

Vote: Chair Peterson: YES

CM Berry: Abstention;

CM Muehlbauer: Abstention;

CM English Abstention;

CM Saha- YES

CM Gathers- YES.

With three abstentions and three yes, the motion carries.

Motion to Adjourn made by Committee Member Peterson; Seconded by Committee Member Muehlbauer, all in favor, motion carries. Meeting is adjourned at 5:04 PM

Please note, any document(s) to be presented to the MAACD must be provided in large and regular size font; additional copies can be made upon request. Videos should be closed-captioned

