MINUTES
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES

February 24, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Damian Gregory 1:45 pm. Introductions were done. Agenda was accepted and minutes for January 2010 were accepted.

Attendance: D. Gregory, R. Fulton, J. Granda, A. Rigerman, D. Valkema, J. Martinez , M. Olivera, S. Kohlenberg, M. Schmidt, and S. Hix.

New Business: Mr. Gregory turned the meeting over to Claude Delorme,Sr. VP of Ballpark Development with a project overview and update on the Miami Marlins Ballpark. He reported that the super columns are up and the project is moving on time and on budget. He indicated that on the south side of the land there may be a residential or charter school developed. He also indicated that the structure will not only be used for baseball but for trade shows, concerts, and events. As it stands now, there are 36,903 seats and there are 376 accessible seats with 395 companion seats. Also speaking were Stewart Ervie from Populous, Isis Majcar and Wayne Meyers. For Way Finding they will use 4 primary colors for the four sections of the interior and exterior of the building. There was discussion on the bathroom doors; various CODI members voiced their difficulty in opening bathroom doors. The staff will go back and see how they might solve this problem. They plan on coming back to CODI in 3-4 months and will have a report on this issue. There was also discussion on a tactile model for people who are blind. There will be two parking garages and two open lots. All have accessible routes from the accessible parking to the building and all parking was placed as close as possible to the accessible route. They will use 16th Avenue for a drop off. A question was asked about a relief area for a service animal. It was stated that that issue is more of an operation issue and they would be coming back to CODI to get their input on operational and policy issues. Much of the surrounding landscape has grass and trees so they didn't see any problems setting up one. They discussed the site view and said anywhere in the stadium a person should be able to see over the person in front of them even if they are standing. Chairman thanked all those that came to update CODI.

Chairperson's Report: After a five minute break, Mr. Gregory reported that the elections will be held in March and Mr. Thompson from Ethics will be at the meeting to give Ethics training and also observe the election. Mr. Gregory updated CODI on the STS issue; ATS will provide the bridge service and will retain the call center. There will be a County Commission meeting on March 2, 2010 to discuss the RFP. Mr. Gregory encouraged everyone interested in the STS issue to attend the meeting and to keep informed. He also said that it is important to stay in contact with your Commissioner and not just when there is a crisis. Mr. Gregory told CODI that he would be leaving to take a position in Maryland; he will leave at the end of February. He thanked CODI and CODI wished him well.

Membership Committee: Dr. Kohlenberg reported on the membership committee that was held before the CODI monthly meeting. The committee went over the four applications for the two available seats, Commissioner Sorenson's seat and Commissioner's Sosa seat. After much discussion by the committee members, they decided on recommending to CODI that Pedro Rodriguez be sent to Commissioner Sosa and Paul Edwards be recommended to be sent to Commissioner Sorenson.

Motion made by Alan Rigerman and seconded by Marie Schmidt to send the name of Pedro Rodriguez to Commissioner Sosa. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made by Ernie Martinez and seconded by Marie Schmidt to send the name of Paul Edwards to Commissioner Sorenson. The Motion passed with one no. Ms. Valkema encouraged anyone interested in CODI to begin to come to committee meetings.

Announcements: Mr. Martinez reported that CIL was forming a STS Transit committee and passed forms out forms to sign up Mr. Fulton announced that on March 5th there will be a housing subcommittee meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:05.