

Memorandum



Date: March 6, 2007

To: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro and
Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager

Subject: Sunset Review of County Board for 2007 – Commission on Disability Issues (CODI)

Agenda Item No. 1(D)2

In accordance with the provisions of Section 2-11.40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, I am transmitting the 2007 Sunset Review of County Boards Report for the Commission on Disability Issues (CODI). The Board approved the attached report at its meeting of January 10, 2007 and has recommended the continuation of its board.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger Carlton", written over a horizontal line.

Roger Carlton
Assistant County Manager

cmo06007

Date: January 11, 2007
To: George M. Burgess, County Manager
From: Elizabeth McNally
Chairperson, Commission on Disability Issues
Subject: Sunset Review of County Boards for 2007 – Commission on Disability Issues

Pursuant to Section 2-11.40 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, I am submitting the 2007 Sunset Review of County Boards Report for the Commission on Disability Issues for transmittal to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). The Board approved the attached report at its meeting of January 10, 2007.

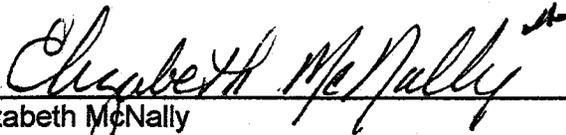
It is recommended that the BCC approve the continuation of the Commission on Disability Issues.

BACKGROUND

The Commission on Disability Issues was created in July 23, 2002 by Ordinance 02-133.

The purpose of the Board is to serve in an advisory capacity to the board of County Commissioners and, upon request the County administration, the community, and all agencies and persons on Miami-Dade County, Florida in respect to all matters pertaining to the status of [persons with disabilities, including but not limited to discrimination against persons with disabilities, employment of persons with disabilities, vocational training to persons with disabilities, establishment of residential facilities in the community for persons with disabilities, transportation needs of persons with disabilities and attitudes towards persons with disabilities in the community, and to make reports and recommendations to these bodies in respect to such matters.

The Commission on Disability Issues serves a vital role in helping Miami Dade County comply with the ADA and welcoming to people with disabilities. No other Miami Dade Board serves in this capacity



Elizabeth McNally
Board Chairperson

**SUNSET REVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARDS
2007**

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Name of Board reporting:
Commission on Disability Issues
2. Indicate number of board members, terms of office, and number of vacancies:

Number of Board Members: 10
Terms of Office: 4 years to coincide with Commissioner's election with a Maximum of 8 years.
Number of Vacancies: 3
3. Identify number of meetings and members' attendance (Attach records reflecting activity from Jan. 1, 2005 through December 31, 2006):

Number of Meetings: 24
Number of Meetings with a Quorum: 21
Attendance Records: Jan 05-Oct 05 – Nov. 05- Sept. 06 – Oct. 06-Dec. 06
4. What is the source of your funding?
Office of ADA Coordination Budget
5. Date of Board Creation:
July 23, 2002
6. Attach a copy of the ordinance creating the Board –
Ordinance 02-133 (3 pages)
7. Include the Board's Mission Statement or state its purpose:
To advice the Board of County Commissioners as to the issues and concerns facing people with disabilities and to recommend to it those ordinances and resolutions that address the issues that foster independence, empowerment, and equality within the community at large.
8. Attach the Board's standard operating procedures, if any.
There are no standard operating procedures.
9. Attach a copy of the Board's By-Laws, if any.
By-Laws are attached
10. Attach a copy of the Board minutes approving the Sunset Review Questionnaire, including a vote of the membership.

**SUNSET REVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARDS
2007**

Minutes from the January 10, 2007 meeting are attached.

11. Include a diskette, saved as ASCII or Rich Text Format (RTF), of the County Manager's transmittal memorandum to the Board of County Commissioners with the Board's recommendation.
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II. EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Is the Board serving the purpose for which it was created?
Yes, this is an official advisory board to the Board of County Commissioners on disability issues. Their official opinions helps the County comply with the ADA and welcoming to people with disabilities.
2. Is the Board serving current community needs?
Yes, CODI is involved in transit, para-transit, housing, emergency management, and communication issues to mention a few.
3. What are the Board's major accomplishments?
- a. Last 24 months;
Worked with the Office of Emergency Manage to include the needs of people with disabilities in their overall emergency plans, worked with Miami Dade Transit on transit and Para-Transit issues, worked with Employee Relations Department to establish the disabled internship program.
- b. Since established
Helped Transit with the writing of and the awarding of a 222 million dollar para-transit contract, set priorities for the County's Transition Plan to remove archit4ectual barriers, and host a Resource Fair once a year that highlights County services and other community services for people with disabilities.
4. Is there any other board, either public or private, which would better serve the function of this board?
No
5. Should the ordinance creating the Board be amended to better enable the Board to serve the purpose for which it was created? (Attach proposed changes, if answer is "Yes")
No

**SUNSET REVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARDS
2007**

6. Should the Board's membership requirements be modified?

No

7. What is the operating cost of the Board, both direct and indirect?

\$32,220 plus 25% for fringe benefits for FY 2006

\$34,800 plus 25% for fringe benefits for FY 2007

8. Describe the Board's performance measures developed to determine its own effectiveness in achieving its stated goals.

CODI has not established performance measurements.

Betty McNally, Chair First Vice Chair: Denise Valkema Second Vice Chair: Damian Gregory Secretary Treasurer: Vacant

MEMBER	Initial date of appoint	TERM END	N 0 4	D 0 4	J 0 5	F 0 5	M 0 5	A 0 5	M 0 5	J 0 5	J 0 5	A 0 5	S 0 5	O 0 5	District	COMMISSIONER
John Miller	First 9/12/02	11/30/2008					P	P	P	E	P	P	P	P	1	Barbara Jordan
Ann Kimble	First 10/4/02	10/31/2006			P	E	P	E	E	E	E	E	V	V	2	Dorin D. Rolle
Shanti Aaron	First 1/27/03	10/31/04			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	3	Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler
Elizabeth McNally	First 12/3/02	10/31/2006			E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	4	Sally A. Heyman
Elly DuPre	First 2/3/04	10/31/2004			E	P	P	P	P	E	V	V	V	V	5	Bruno A. Barreiro
Marilyn Larrieu	First 10/30/02	10/31/2006			P	P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	6	Rebeca Sosa
Clara Gantes										V	V	V	P	P	7	Carlos J. Gimenez
Damian Gregory	First 11/6/02	10/31/2006			P	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	E	8	Katy Sorenson
Ronald Fulton	1/27/05	11/30/08				P	P	E	E	P	E	P	P	P	9	Dennis C. Moss
Dr. S. Kohlenberg			V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V	V	P	P	10	Javier D. Souto
Denise Valkema	First 1/20/04	10/31/2004			P	P	P	P	P	P	U	P	P	P	11	Joe A. Martinez
Marie Schmidt	First 11/19/02	10/31/2006			P	E	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	12	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Vacant			V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V	V	V	V	13	Natacha Seijas

OFFICE OF ADA COORDINATION:
 Daniel S. Holder, Ilene Hyams
 Claudia Rojas,

Access/Transportation: Chair: Denise Valkema

Membership: Chair: Marie Schmidt

Housing:

Communications:

Alliance for Human Services: Chair: Marilyn Larrieu

Outreach: :

Employment: Co-Chair: Damian Gregory/Shanti Aaron

Elizabeth McNally, Chair First Vice Chair: Denise Valkema Second Vice Chair: Shanti Aaron Secretary
 Treasurer: Ronald Fulton

MEMBER	Initial date of appoint	TERM END	N 0 5	D 0 5	J 0 6	F 0 6	M 0 6	A 0 6	M 0 6	J 0 6	J 0 6	A 0 6	S 0 6	O 0 6	District	COMMISSIONER
John Miller	First 9/12/02	11/30/2008	E	P	P	P	P	E	P	E	E	E	P		1	Barbara Jordan
	First 10/4/02	1					V	V	V	V	V	V	V		2	Dorin D. Rolle
Shanti Aaron	First 1/27/03	10/31/04	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	V	V	V	V		3	Audrey Edmonson
Elizabeth McNally	First 12/3/02	10/31/2006	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		4	Sally A. Heyman
Jose Martinez	First 2/3/04						V	V		V	E	E	P		5	Bruno A. Barreiro
Marilyn Larrieu	First 10/30/02	10/31/2006	E	E	P	P	P	E	E	E	P	E	E		6	Rebeca Sosa
Clara Gantes			P	P	P	P	E	P	E	P	E	P	P		7	Carlos J. Gimenez
Damian Gregory	First 11/6/02	10/31/2006	E	E	E	E	E	P	E	P	E	E	E		8	Katy Sorenson
Ronald Fulton	1/27/05	11/30/08	P	P	E	P	P	P	E	P	E	E	P		9	Dennis C. Moss
Dr. S. Kohlenberg			P	P	P	P	P	E	E	P	P	P	P		10	Javier D. Souto
Denise Valkema	First 1/20/04	10/31/2004	P	P	P	P	P	E	E	P	P	P	P		11	Joe A. Martinez
Marie Schmidt	First 11/19/02	10/31/2006	E	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	E	P	E		12	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Vacant							V	V	V	V	V	V	V		13	Natacha Seijas

OFFICE OF ADA COORDINATION:

Daniel S. Holder, Ilene Hyams, Claudia Rojas

Standing Committees

Access Transportation: Chair: Denise Valkema

Membership: Chair: Marie Schmidt

Employment: Co-Chair: Damian Gregory, Shanti Aaron

Housing: Co-Chair: Ronald Fulton – Dr. Sam Kohlenberg

Alliance for Human Services: Chair: Marilyn Larrieu

Elizabeth McNally, Chair First Vice Chair: Denise Valkema Second Vice Chair: Secretary Treasurer: Ronald Fulton

MEMBER	Initial date of appoint	TERM END	O 0 6	N 0 6	D 0 6	J 0 7	F 0 7	M 0 7	A 0 7	M 0 7	J 0 7	J 0 7	A 0 7	S 0 7	District	COMMISSIONER
John Miller	First 9/12/02	11/30/2008	P	E	P										1	Barbara Jordan
vacant			V	V	V										2	Dorin D. Rolle
Vacant			V	V	V										3	Audrey Edmonson
Elizabeth McNally	First 12/3/02	10/31/2006	P	P	P										4	Sally A. Heyman
Jose Martinez	First 2/3/04		E	P	E										5	Bruno A. Barreiro
Marilyn Larrieu	First 10/30/02	10/31/2006	P	E	P										6	Rebeca Sosa
Clara Gantes	8/23/2005		P	P	P										7	Carlos J. Gimenez
Damian Gregory	First 11/6/02	10/31/2006	P	E	P										8	Katy Sorenson
Ronald Fulton	1/27/05	11/30/08	E	P	P										9	Dennis C. Moss
Dr. S. Kohlenberg	8/11/2005	10/31/2006	P	E	P										10	Javier D. Souto
Denise Valkema	First 1/20/04	10/31/2004	P	P	P										11	Joe A. Martinez
Marie Schmidt	First 11/19/02	10/31/2006	E	P	P										12	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Vacant			V	V	V										13	Natacha Seijas

OFFICE OF ADA COORDINATION:

Daniel S. Holder, Ilene Hyams, Claudia Rojas

Standing Committees

Access Transportation: Chair: Denise Valkema

Membership: Chair: Marie Schmidt

Employment: Co-Chair: Damian Gregory, Shanti Aaron

Housing: Co-Chair: Ronald Fulton – Dr. Sam Kohlenberg

Alliance for Human Services: Chair: Marilyn Larrieu

CODE of MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA Codified through Ord. No. 02-133, enacted July 23, 2002.
(Supplement No. 36)

Chapter 2 ADMINISTRATION*

ARTICLE XXXIV. COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES*

Sec. 2-311. Short title.

(Ord. No. 77-23, § 1, 4-19-77; Ord. No. 94-04, § 1, 1-18-94; Ord. No. 02-133, § 1, 7-23-02)

Sec. 2-312. Commission on Disability Issues established.

The Miami-Dade County Commission on Disability Issues is hereby created and established. The commission shall consist of thirteen (13) members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners.

(Ord. No. 77-23, § 2, 4-19-77; Ord. No. 79-90, § 1, 10-16-79; Ord. No. 94-04, § 2, 1-18-94; Ord. No. 02-133, § 2, 7-23-02)

Sec. 2-313. Qualifications of members.

Members of the Commission shall be individuals who have demonstrated their dedication to issues affecting persons with disabilities or representatives of organizations or agencies dedicated to the advancement of persons with disabilities. At least fifty (50) percent of the members of the Commission shall be persons with disabilities as defined from time to time in the Americans with Disabilities Act. In the event that the percentage of Commission members with disabilities falls below fifty (50) percent, all succeeding appointees shall be persons with disabilities until persons with disabilities constitute a majority of Commission membership. Members of the Commission shall work in or be permanent residents of Miami-Dade County. Members, while serving, shall not become candidates for election to any public office.

(Ord. No. 77-23, § 3, 4-19-77; Ord. No. 79-90, § 2, 10-16-79; Ord. No. 94-04, § 3, 1-18-94; Ord. No. 02-133, § 3, 7-23-02)

Annotation--CAO 77-37.

Sec. 2-314. Appointments and terms of office.

All appointments to the Commission shall be for a term which begins on the day of appointment and expires when the appointing Commissioner's term of office expires or the appointing Commissioner leaves office. A Commissioner who has appointed a Commission member may at any time, with or without cause, remove the member. A member of the Commission may be removed pursuant to the provisions of any general county ordinance relating to advisory boards or by the Board of County Commissioners when the member's absenteeism is generally excessive or the continued membership of the individual would be detrimental to the Commission on Disability Issues as determined by a majority of that Commission. The Commission on Disability Issues will make its determination by a formal motion and vote and the chairperson shall certify said vote to the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners who shall place the matter on the next available agenda.

When any vacancy occurs on the Commission, the remaining members of the Commission shall recommend up to three (3) persons to the Commissioner responsible for recommending an appointment to that vacancy. That Commissioner shall either recommend to the Board of County Commissioners one of the individuals on the list or the commissioner shall request a new list of three (3) people either including or excluding, at the Commissioner's discretion, specific names from the original list. The Board of County Commissioners shall fill the vacancy from the names submitted.

Terms of office for CODI members shall run from the day of appointment by the Commission and expire when the appointing Commissioner's term of office expires or the appointing Commissioner leaves office. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Code, no member shall serve more than a cumulative total of eight (8) years on the Commission unless reappointed after a hiatus of two (2) years. If a seat remains vacant for more than thirty (30) days then any Commissioner may fill the vacancy. The positions vacated or expiring shall be filled by the Board of County Commissioners in the manner stated above.

(Ord. No. 77-23, § 4, 4-19-77; Ord. No. 79-90, § 3, 10-16-79; Ord. No. 94-04, § 4, 1-18-94; Ord. No. 02-133, § 4, 7-23-02)

Sec. 2-315. Organization of the Commission.

The members of the Commission shall elect a Chairperson, two (2) Vice-Chairpersons and a Secretary. Fifty-one (51) percent of the current members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum necessary to hold a meeting and to take any action provided that at least one-half (1/2) of the Commission's members have been appointed. The Chairperson shall set date, time and place of the meetings of the Commission, but special meetings may be called upon with agreement by fifty-one (51) percent of the members of the Commission. There shall be at least eight (8) meetings a year. Minutes shall be kept of all meetings of the Commission, under the supervision of the Secretary. All meetings shall be open to the public. Members shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties, upon approval by the County Commission. The Chairperson, the two (2) Vice-Chairpersons and the Secretary shall constitute the Executive Committee.

(Ord. No. 77-23, § 5, 4-19-77; Ord. No. 79-80, § 4, 10-16-79; Ord. No. 94-04, § 5, 1-18-94; Ord. No. 02-133, § 5, 7-23-02)

Sec. 2-316. Prerogatives and powers of the Commission.

The Commission shall have the following prerogatives and powers:

- (a) To serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of County Commissioners and, upon request, the County administration, the community, and all agencies and persons in Miami-Dade County, Florida, in respect to all matters pertaining to the status of persons with disabilities, including but not limited to discrimination against persons with disabilities, employment of persons with disabilities, vocational training for persons with disabilities, establishment of residential facilities in the community for persons with disabilities, transportation needs of persons with disabilities and attitudes towards persons with disabilities in the community, and to make reports and recommendations to these bodies in respect to such matters.
- (b) To serve as liaison between the Board of County Commissioners and persons with disabilities of the community, and to consult with representatives of said bodies from time to time as requested and necessary in order to carry out the Commission's functions.
- (c) When feasible and desirable, to institute studies and to have studies made of all existing County institutions, facilities, services and programs dealing with or affecting persons with disabilities, and to consider the future needs of Miami-Dade County in respect to such institutions, facilities, services and programs.
- (d) To institute studies and to have studies made in respect to, but not limited to, discrimination against persons with disabilities in employment, education, transportation, and architecture; the problems involving the establishment of a residential center for persons with disabilities; the treatment, recreational service and other facilities for persons with disabilities; and the problems of attitudinal barriers toward persons with disabilities.
- (e) To formulate and recommend plans and programs for the coordination of the activities of all governmental entities and nongovernmental agencies dealing with problems of persons with disabilities.
- (f) To serve as a resource facility to persons with disabilities and to those interested in advancing the welfare of persons with disabilities.
- (g) To seek and accept appropriations or funds from interested persons and entities in order to carry out studies and activities for the advancement of persons with disabilities.
- (h) To perform any other activities as may from time to time be assigned to the Commission by resolution of the Board of County Commissioners.
- (i) To prepare and submit an annual report on the studies and activities of the Commission to the Board of County Commissioners.

(Ord. No. 77-23, § 6, 4-19-77; Ord. No. 02-133, § 6, 7-23-02)

Sec. 2-317. Limitations of powers.

The powers and jurisdiction of the Commission shall be purely advisory, voluntary and persuasive. The Commission shall not have any power or authority to subpoena or compel the attendance of witnesses. The Commission shall have no power to appoint County officers or employees or to make policy decisions, or to manage, control or administer institutions or programs relating to persons with disabilities in Miami-Dade County.

**BY-LAWS
OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES**

Adopted: June 13, 1978
Amended: December 12, 1978
Amended: January 8, 1980
Amended: March 7, 1995
Amended January 8, 2002

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

The name of this Commission is the Miami-Dade County Commission on Disability Issues. This Commission was established by the Board of County Commissioners on April 19, 1977 by Ordinance No. 77-23. The original ordinance was replaced by Ordinance No. 79-80 on October 16, 1979, then replaced by Ordinance No. 94-04 on January 18, 1994 and subsequently replaced by Ordinance No. 02-133 on July 23, 2002

**ARTICLE II
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

To advise the Board of County Commissioners as to the issues and concerns facing people with disabilities and to recommend to it those ordinances and resolutions that address the issues that foster independence, empowerment, and equity within the community at large.

To be a forum for free and open discussion in which the needs and desires of all people with disabilities may be brought forward, discussed, and solutions sought for or determined.

To eliminate the barriers of prejudice and discrimination based on disability in employment, education, housing, transportation, etc. and all other aspects of daily living.

To inform, educate, and spread awareness among individuals, the general public, the private sector, and government entities as to the existence of local, state, and federal legislation that speaks to the issues of inclusion, independence, and empowerment for people with disabilities.

To motivate individuals with disabilities to participate in the accomplishment of the above and to take part in the decision-making process so that an ever increasing

number of people with disabilities may become more vigilant regarding their rights and responsibilities under the law.

ARTICLE III
PREROGATIVES AND POWERS

The Commission shall have the following prerogatives and powers:

- a) To serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of County Commissioners, the County administration, the community, and all agencies in Miami-Dade County, Florida, with respect to all matters pertaining to issues affecting people with disabilities. These issues include, but are not limited to discrimination, employment, education and vocational training, establishment of residential facilities, transportation, housing, recreation, independent living, the elimination of architectural barriers, inclusion in programs, policies, and procedures and to make reports and recommendations to the appropriate entities regarding such matters.
- b) To serve as liaison between the Board of County Commissioners and the community of people with disabilities and to consult with representatives of organizations representing people with disabilities as requested and as necessary to carry out the functions of this commission.
- c) To institute and have studies made of all County facilities, services, institutions, and programs dealing with or affecting people with disabilities and to consider the future need of Miami-Dade County with respect to said facilities, services, institutions, and programs.
- d) To formulate and recommend plans and programs for the coordination of the activities of all governmental entities, non-governmental agencies, non-profit organizations and recipients of county funds that deal with the issues and concerns of people with disabilities.
- e) To serve as a resource to people with disabilities, service providers, family members, and other allies interested in the distribution of equitable services for people with disabilities.
- f) To seek and accept appropriations of funds from persons and entities in order to carry out studies and activities for people with disabilities.
- g) To perform any other activities as may be assigned to the Commission by the Board of County Commissioners.
- h) To prepare and submit an annual report on the activities of the Commission to the Board of County Commissioners.

SECTION 1
LIMITATIONS OF POWERS

The powers and jurisdiction of the Commission shall be solely advisory, voluntary, and persuasive. The Commission shall not have any power or authority to subpoena or compel the attendance of witnesses. The Commission shall not have any power to appoint County officers or employees or to make policy decisions, or to manage, control, or administer institutions or programs relating to people with disabilities in Miami-Dade County.

SECTION 2
STAFF SUPPORT

The Office of the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordination shall supply staff support and shall act as liaison between the Commission and the County.

ARTICLE IV
MEMBERSHIP AND QUALIFICATION

The Miami- Dade County Commission on Disability Issues shall consist of thirteen (13) members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. Each member of the Board of County Commissioners shall appoint one member to the Commission.

The terms of office of the members of the Commission shall begin on the day of appointment and expire when the appointing Commissioner's term of office expires or the appointing Commissioner leaves office. No member shall serve more than a cumulative total of eight (8) years on the Commission unless reappointed after a hiatus of two (2) years.

Appointed members of the Commission must be permanent residents of Miami-Dade County unless the Board of County Commissioners, by a two-thirds vote of its membership, waives this requirement. Members shall not become candidates for election to any public office. Members of the Commission must be individuals who are willing to further the cause of civil rights for people with disabilities. Individuals need not have a disability, but for purposes of effective representation, the majority of appointed members must have a disability.

A member of the Commission may be removed without cause by a 3/4 vote of the entire membership of the Board of County Commissioners or by the appointing Commissioner. The Commission may request an appointing Commissioner to remove a Commission member provided that the recommendation for removal is approved by a majority vote of the Commission. When any member of the Commission fails to attend

two (2) consecutive meetings of the Commission without good cause or three (3) meetings without good cause, the Chairperson shall certify that fact to the Board of County Commissioners and such member shall then be deemed to have been removed from office and a vacancy created. "Good cause" is defined as an absence for medical reasons, business reasons, personal reasons or any other reason which the Commission, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership, deems appropriate. Attendance of a member at less than seventy-five percent (75 %) of the scheduled meetings, without excuse, shall be deemed a failure to attend.

When a vacancy of an appointed seat occurs on the Commission, the Membership Committee shall submit one (1) applicant for appointment to the respective County Commissioner. The Commissioner shall recommend approval of this applicant to the Board of County Commissioners or shall request a new list of three (3) people either including or excluding, at the Commissioner's discretion, the name of the applicant originally submitted. The Board of County Commissioners shall fill the vacancy from the names submitted.

Until an appointment to fill a vacancy occurs the member vacating may remain in the seat until the vacancy is filled by the Board of County Commissioners. If a seat remains vacant for more than thirty (30) days then any Commissioner may fill the vacancy subject to the procedures for recommending applicants as stated above.

ARTICLE V **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The officers of the Commission shall be a Chairperson, a First Vice-Chairperson, a Second Vice Chairperson, and a Secretary, and shall be called the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI **ELECTIONS AND TERMS OF OFFICE**

Officers shall be elected at the January meeting of the Commission. A slate of nominations shall be presented by the Nominating Committee at the December meeting. The Chairperson shall appoint a Nominating Committee at the November meeting. The election shall be the last item on the agenda and the newly elected officers shall assume their duties immediately after the elections are over. The Chairperson shall, as long as he or she remains a member in good standing, serve for a period not to exceed two years, unless re-elected. Each other officer, as long as he or she remains a member in good standing, shall serve for a period not to exceed one year, unless reelected.

Elections shall be held by the Chairperson opening the floor for nominations, starting with the office of the Chairperson. Voting shall be by other means than a secret ballot. Proxy votes shall not be accepted.

Election shall be by a majority vote of the members of the Commission present and voting. In the event that there is no majority vote for an office, then the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall go through a rerun election.

SECTION 1
DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Commission. The Chairperson shall assign various members to Committees or Task Forces with due consideration as to the preference of each member.

The Chairperson shall present all reports to the Board of County Commissioners. The Chairperson shall be the only official spokesperson and representative for the Commission - other members of the Commission may speak on behalf of the Commission only with the written permission of the Chairperson, or with the approval of the majority of the Commission members, or at a public appearance which is planned for the participation of the entire Commission.

The First Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson in the latter's absence and the Second Vice-Chairperson shall perform such duties in the absence of the Chairperson and First Vice-Chairperson, unless a different assignment is made by the Chairperson. Both Vice-Chairpersons shall assist the Chairperson in the performance of his or her duties.

ARTICLE VII
STANDING COMMITTEES

Each Commission member shall serve on one standing committee with the exception of the Executive Committee.

Immediately after accepting office, the Chairperson shall appoint a Membership Committee whose duty it will be to gather willing and qualified candidates to serve as members. Each time a vacancy occurs among the thirteen (13) appointed members of CODI the committee will present an applicant to the Commission for subsequent appointment by the Board of County Commissioners.

Each Committee shall meet at a time, date, and place to be determined by the Committee's Chairperson, such meetings to be announced and publicized.

Comprehensive reports of each Committee shall be provided in writing at least once a year with copies distributed with the minutes of the Commission meeting or at the request of the Chairperson of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII
MEETINGS

The Commission shall hold regularly monthly meeting at least ten (10) times per year. A special meeting may be called upon written notice signed by not less than a majority of members serving at that time.

It shall be the responsibility of each member to attend all meetings of the Commission, and also all meetings of the Committees that member has been assigned. To be counted as present, a member must remain at a meeting for three-quarters (3/4) of the scheduled meeting time.

A quorum shall consist of fifty-one percent (51%) of the current membership provided that at least one-half (1/2) of the Commission membership has been appointed. In the event that more than one-half (1/2) of the Commission seats remain vacant then a quorum shall be constituted by two-thirds (2/3) of the currently appointed membership.

ARTICLE IX
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The parliamentary authority for this Commission shall be Roberts Rules of Order.

ARTICLE X
AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any meeting of the Commission if two weeks notice of such amendment has been provided to each member.

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUE

January 10, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Denise Valkema, First Vice Chair, at 1:45 pm. Introductions were done. The agenda was approved with one addition: Para-Transit and the Use of the Busway. The minutes for the December meeting were approved.

Chairperson's Report: Ms. McNally report was not made

Employment Committee: Damian Gregory reported that there has been some difficulty with scheduling the interviews for the Internship program because of everyone's schedule but he expects that this month the interviews should be scheduled and if not, Mr. Collins will be invited to the February meeting. He mentioned that Ms. McNally has been asked to sit on the selection committee for Dan Holder's position. Mr. Holder will be leaving at the end of April. Dan Holder mentioned that there were 114 applications for his position but the field was narrowed to 7 people and they will be interviewed this month. Ilene Hyams reported that there will be a DBTAC audio-conference on how to recruit people with disabilities on Tuesday, January 16th. She asked if anyone was interested in attending; she intends to sign up for the audio-conference and it will be held in the ADA Office.

Access- Transportation Committee: Damian Gregory reported that at the Rider's Meeting there was discussion on what to do with riders with cognitive disabilities who can't be dropped off unless there is someone to receive them. They are looking into abandonment policies at Children and Family Service and Agency for People with Disabilities. Dan Holder reported that the ADA Office had been asked by the STS Oversight committee to write an official opinion on the subject. He said that there are a number of factors that have to be assessed but rather than denying service the County could require the person to ride with attendant

Membership Committee: Marie Schmidt reported that there are three openings on CODI. However, someone has attended two meetings and is in the process of filling out an application for membership.

Housing Committee: No report was given.

New Business:

Mr. Naiditch spoke about the feasibility of para-transit using the Busway in South Dade. He explained the rationale behind this idea. There were some questions followed by some discussion.

Motion was made by John Miller and seconded by Marie Schmidt : To study the issue of allowing para-transit vehicles to use the South Dade Busway. The Motion was passed unanimously.

Dan Holder reported on the Between – Car Barriers used on rail cars so people with low vision or people who are blind would not mistake the space between the cars for a door opening. Because of the shape of the new cars and the sharp turns the cars need to make, the Transit consultants have not been able to design a physical barrier. They have come up with a locator signal on the door. Mr. Holder asked for CODI's input. Ms. McNally said that with all the noise it would be hard to hear and confusing and if they put an alarm system at the end of the cars that would warn a person if they were too close to the space between cars, that maybe would not be as hard to hear but it would go off and a person who was blind or visually impaired would not know if they set it off or another person had set it off. John Miller also mentioned that he thought it could get very noisy and crowded up on the platforms. Marie Schmidt asked about physical chains or metal barriers that could be used as seen in Disney World. She also asked what other municipalities are using and if these new designs in rail cars are being used other places. Only bullet cars be used as the first and last car not on the attached cars was discussed.

Ilene Hyams spoke about the Sunset Review process. She explained why and what was needed to prepare for the County Commission.

Motion made by Marie Schmidt and seconded by John Miller: to strongly support the continuation of the Commission on Disability Issues (CODI).

Marie Schmidt – Representing Commissioner Jose “Pepe” Diaz - Yes

John Miller – Representing Commissioner Barbara Jordan - Yes

Clara Gantes – Representing Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez - Yes

Elizabeth McNally – Representing Commissioner Sally A. Heyman-Yes

Denise Valkema – Representing Commissioner Joe A. Martinez -Yes

Dr. Sam Kohlenberg – Representing Commissioner Senator Javier D. Souto - Yes

Damian Gregory – Representing Commissioner Katy Sorenson -Yes

Ronald Fulton – Representing Commissioner Dennis C. Moss - hospitalized - excused

Jose Martinez – Representing Commissioner Bruno A. Barreiro - out of the Country-excused

Marilyn Larrieu – Representing Commissioner Rebeca Sosa - work related - excused

Three openings: Commissioner Dorrin D. Rolle, Commissioner Audrey Edmonson , Commissioner Natacha Seijas

Ilene Hyams reported that the final report draft has come out from the Community Affordable Housing Strategies Alliance. Ms. Hyams said all the recommendations that had come from the Office of ADA were in the report. She read several examples of recommendations that are targeted to people with disabilities and their need for accessible housing as well as affordable housing. There will be a Task Force meeting tomorrow at the Housing Agency from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

Claudia Rojas reported that the Resource Fair will be April 11, 2007 from 9:00am to 3:00 pm in the Clark Lobby. The office is updating their mailing list and asked CODI members to let the Office know if they know of any changes or new people or agencies they would like to invite. She went over the time line for the event and said that CIL will be co-chairing the event again.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Announcements:

January 17, 2007 Plaque dedication for Gayle Krause 2:00 pm - Concourse E

January 27, 2007 10-5 at Clark Center - Super Tax Day – Free Tax preparation 305-576-5001

February 9 & 10 Assistive Technology Awareness – please call for location 305-995-2632

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