



Miami-Dade County

Commission on Disability Issues (CODI)
Stephen P. Clark Center (SPCC)
111 N.W. 1st Street, Miami, Florida 33128
8th Floor, Conference Room 18-4

	Date:	Wednesday, January 22, 2014	
	Time:	1:30 – 4:00 p.m. est.	
	Call to Order Time:	1:50 p.m. est.	
	Meeting Adjourned:	4:05 p.m. est.	
I.	Opening and Attendance: Attendance recorded. Call to Order. Copies of documents were distributed		
	District 1 Commissioner Jordan	Damian Gregory 1 st Vice Chair	Present arrived at 2:07 p.m.
	District 2 Commissioner Monestime	Jackson David Housing Committee Chair	Absent
	District 3 Commissioner Edmonson	Jose Granda Access Committee Chair	Present
	District 4 Commissioner Heyman	Earl Oaks Employment Committee Chair	Present on Conference Call
	District 5 Commissioner Barreiro	Jose (Ernie) Martinez CODI Chairman	Present
	District 6 Commissioner Sosa	Pedro Rodriguez	Excused Absence
	District 7 Commissioner Suarez	Harry Horgan Outreach/Education Chair	Present arrived at 2:20 p.m.
	District 8 Commissioner Bell	Jesus Garcia CODI Secretary and Transportation Committee Chair	Present left at 2:48
	District 9 Commissioner Moss	Ronald Fulton 2 nd Vice Chair	Arrived at 2:00 p.m. Left at 2:20 p.m.
	District 10 Commissioner Souto	Vacant Appointment
	District 11 Commissioner suppoto	Vacant Appointment
	District 12 Commissioner Diaz	Marilyn Larrieu Housing Committee Co-Chair	Present
	District 13 Commission Bovo	Alan Rigerman	Excused Absence
	Miami-Dade County Staff Present	Dianne Steinberg Administrative & Bus. Services Division Recording Secretary, ISD Heidi Johnson-Wright ISD, ADA Coordinator Marcus Ortega Civil rights division MDT. William Velez (MDT) Chief, Bus Operations	Present Present Present Present

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II.	Approval of Agenda	Chairman Martinez requested a motion to approve the Agenda for January 22, 2014. Jesus Garcia made the motion, Marilyn Larrieu seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.
III.	Approval of CODI Minutes	Chairman Martinez requested a motion to approve the November 20, 2013 CODI Meeting minutes. Jesus Garcia made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Jose Granda. Motion unanimously approved.
IV.	Old/New Business	
V.	Open Comments	3 minutes each speaker (Advance Notice Preferred) No public comments at this time
		MDT Transportation Map Jose Granda spoke about the 2012 MDT Transportation MAP. He said that the Disabilities Logo, which is currently located at the bottom of the map, is difficult to locate. The map should include a blue bus disability icon and language that sign language interpreters are provided upon request. He suggested that MDT produce an updated version of the map. Heidi Johnson-Wright, ISD, ADA Coordinator asked Marcus Ortega, MDT's ADA Coordinator, if the current map included a universal access statement. Mr. Ortega confirmed that this is included on the map, and that the disability logo can be added later. Mr. Granda said that in addition to the logo, the access pass is not clear. Mr. Ortega advised that when MDT publishes the new map, these requested updates will be included.
		Luz Rosenthal, City of Doral, Special Needs Representative Luz Rosenthal addressed CODI regarding an upcoming special event at City of Doral on Thursday January 30, 2014. The event will include a panel of experts discussing employment opportunities for people with disabilities. Ms. Rosenthal will be coordinating ten free workshops, two hours long in duration, regarding how the city works. The first one will be beginning on February 23, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. Events will be at 8401, NW 53 Terrace, 3 rd Floor at the Doral Council Chambers. Ms. Rosenthal provided flyers to the Board and members of the public in attendance. Ms. Rosenthal suggested a representative from the disabled workforce should attend the workshops, in order to address the Doral business community. Jesus Garcia advised that he will attend the workshops with his Human Resources staff from his workplace.
		<u>Rob Collins, Education & Outreach Coordinator for HOPE Inc.</u> addressed CODI regarding HOPE, a non-profit organization that investigates claims of housing discrimination in Broward and Miami-Dade counties. Mr. Collins is available to give presentations free of charge, to groups and provide information on individual's rights regarding housing discrimination. Claims of housing discrimination can be reported to his email address at ROB@HOPEFHC.com . STS Vehicle Pick Up and Drop Off Locations (Marlins Park and Sun Life Stadiums)

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		<p>Ron Fulton reported that the STS drivers are marking riders as no-shows for pick-ups at these stadiums. Jesus Garcia acknowledged that there have been issues at the American Airlines Arena and Marlin Park Stadium since the day these two facilities opened. However, he stated these issues had been resolved regarding Sun Life Stadium. Mr. Garcia said that there is currently a pick-up and drop off at a specific gate, either (E) or (G). The problem was remedied some time ago.</p> <p>Heidi Johnson-Wright said that this issue was resolved at Marlins Park last year when a single point was designated for both STS pick-up and drop off. Mr. Garcia cautioned that once the baseball season starts, during the first few baseball games it is to be expected that there will be issues. Ms. Johnson-Wright added that the Marlins Park website includes the exact location of drop-off/ pick-up. She added that the Sun Life Stadium is not a County facility.</p> <p>Bill Velez stated he will forward an email to Transportation America (TA) regarding this issue. He also mentioned that there are many recently hired STS drivers at Transportation America.</p> <p>Chairmen Martinez said this item will be included on the March Transportation Committee agenda. He suggested that the existing STS drivers at Transportation America receive a memo regarding these issues and the new drivers be given training.</p>
<p>VI.</p>	<p>Information Items</p>	<p>a) Discussion of Meetings – CODI Chairman, Ernie Martinez</p> <p>Chairman Martinez advised that CODI members must be in attendance at the meetings. This is a responsibility of Miami-Dade County Commissioner-appointed board members. Chairman Martinez cautioned that due to absenteeism, CODI is struggling to make quorum at meetings and this affects the Boards ability to perform its duties. If this continues, the BCC is within its authority to disband the CODI Board.</p> <p>Ms. Johnson-Wright stated that every two years, CODI undergoes a Sunset Review. The review includes the board’s record of making quorum.</p> <p>Chairman Martinez said that CODI members can be excused from attendance for medical reasons. He noted that CODI has had members that have been ill for the last six months or more. David New inquired how many times the CODI Board has not made quorum.</p> <p>Ms. Johnson-Wright said CODI is required by ordinance to meet a minimum of eight times in a 12 month period. This minimum can be achieved through a combination of full-board and committee meetings. CODI members are expected to maintain a relationship with their respective Commissioners. Chairman Martinez advised members to reach out to their respective commissioners or their chiefs of staff.</p> <p>Ms. Johnson-Wright noted that issues related to disability scheduled to come before the BCC can be tracked online.</p>

		<p>b) CODI Committee Meetings</p> <p>A discussion ensued regarding CODI Committee meetings. Harry Horgan suggested that committee chairs could set goals this year.</p> <p>David New recommended that the monthly CODI Board Meeting begin later in the afternoon and be reduced to 90 minutes from the current two and a half hours. The meetings of the City of Miami Beach Disability Issues Committee do not exceed 90 minutes. The meetings begin punctually and end on time. He added that they limit the time individuals are permitted to speak. Harry Horgan agreed that CODI consider shorter meetings.</p>
		<p>c) MDT Para Transit, PTRD Training Classes (William Velez)</p> <p>Jesus Garcia raised the issue of MDT Para Transit STS Drivers and PTRD Training Classes. Mr. Garcia suggested that CODI draft a resolution regarding newly hired STS drivers. PTRD schedules the classes and conducts mandatory testing. PTRD has no classes scheduled until mid-March 2014. This means the contractor may not be able to hire any new drivers until possibly April 2014. This negatively impacts STS service.</p> <p><u>Mr. Garcia presented a draft resolution to the CODI Board as follows:</u></p> <p>Whereas MDT STS is the primary transportation service utilized by residents with disabilities of Miami-Dade County; and whereas a sufficient number of drivers is a critical part of the program of enabling the program to run smoothly; and whereas it has come to the attention of the CODI Transportation Committee that PTRD is not opening training classes for driver training until March 2014; and whereas this will cause delay in the contractor being able to hire new drivers; Be it resolved: CODI urges the BCC Transportation Committee to instruct PTRD to immediately open classes for drivers seeking hack license training and testing and that it be further resolved in future periods that no more than one month elapse between classes.</p> <p>A discussion ensued and it was determined that in order to have legislation passed, a resolution must be sponsored by a BCC Commissioner, and therefore, CODI will forward a letter to the BCC regarding this issue.</p> <p>MOTION was made to forward this resolution to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and for PTRD to commence training classes as soon as possible. These classes should be conducted monthly. The motion was seconded by Harry Horgan. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Mr. Velez added that the MDT Director met approximately two weeks ago with the Deputy Mayor that oversees PTRD. This issue was discussed and will be addressed. Additionally, Mr. Velez and MDT staff and the Local Coordinating Board members met with Transportation America (TA) and are in communication with PTRD to resolve this issue. He advised that they will be providing additional classes soon.</p> <p>Mr. Garcia said that during the implementation of the new contract, TA lost about 40-50 percent of their drivers. It often takes approximately one to one and a half years for service providers to adjust after a new contract. In addition, to this issue, the STS program continues to grow.</p>

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		<p>Mr. Velez stated that 189 drivers have been hired but have had a 40 percent turnover rate during the last nine months.</p>
		<p>d) MDT STS three-quarter mile issue</p> <p>Jesus Garcia said that the next Transportation Committee Meeting will be scheduled for March 2014. Miami-Dade Transit will attend and requested that CODI members do so, as well. He also encouraged CODI to invite a BCC Transportation Committee or Commission staff member to attend. Mr. Garcia wants support from the Commission regarding the STS three-quarter mile issue. If implemented, STS would only be obligated to service riders that are within $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of fixed bus routes. If enforced, this would be a major change to the structure of STS service area.</p>
		<p>e) STS Service for Trolley Service to Everglades & Biscayne National Parks</p> <p>Bill Velez announced that there is trolley service to the Everglades and Biscayne National Parks. Due to ADA compliance requirements, TA has been notified by MDT to provide STS service to those locations when the trolley is operating. He added that there have been complaints from TA regarding service to Mile Marker 50 area. This is contracted out to the City of Homestead and they subcontracted it to Transportation America (TA).</p>
VII.	Action Items	<p>a) Committee Assignments 2014 - CODI Chairman, Ernie Martinez</p> <p>Chairman Martinez assigned the following members to committees the following:</p> <p><u>Access Committee:</u> Jose Granda, Damian Gregory, Jackson David, Earl Oaks, (Luz Rosenberg) Issues to address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Crosswalks▪ Guide dogs (problems & conditions), education of employers & employees, and public access issues▪ Accessible formats▪ County Websites improvements <p><u>Housing Committee:</u> Earl Oaks, Jackson David, Marilyn Larrieu, Pedro Rodriguez, Ron Fulton Issues to address: Number of accessible units</p> <p><u>Transportation Committee:</u> Jesus Garcia, Ernie Martinez, Damian Gregory and Ronald Fulton (David New)</p> <p><u>Outreach Committee:</u> Harry Horgan, Alan Rigerman, Jose Granda, Ron Fulton, (Luz Rosenthal)</p> <p><u>Nominating Committee:</u> Harry Horgan, Jackson David, Marilyn Larrieu, Alan Rigerman, Damian Gregory, Earl Oaks</p>

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		<p>b) Commission on Disabilities Issues (CODI) Goals for 2014</p> <p>Chairman Martinez listed the following goals for 2014:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. ADA Celebration2. County internships3. Improved pedestrian access4. Audible pedestrian signals5. Increase the accessibility of rental cars at Miami International Airport (MIA)6. Improve the disability information at 3117. Elections/polling place access
	Adjournment	Meeting ended at 3:48 p.m. est.
	Next Meeting	The next CODI meeting is will be on February 26, 2014.