



**Commission on Disability Issues (CODI)**  
**Minutes Memorandum**  
**Stephen P. Clark Center (SPCC)**  
**111 N.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Miami, Florida 33128**  
**18<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room 18-4**

	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday, May 27, 2015</b>	
	<b>Time:</b>	<b>1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.</b>	
	<b>Call to Order Time:</b>	<b>1: 46 p.m.</b>	
	<b>Meeting Adjourned:</b>	<b>4:03 p.m.</b>	
<b>I.</b>	<b>Opening and Attendance:</b> Attendance recorded. Call to Order. Copies of documents were distributed.		
	District 1 <b>Commissioner Jordan</b>	<b>Damian Gregory</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair</b>	Present
	District 2 <b>Commissioner Monestime</b>	<b>Jackson David</b>	Present
	District 3 <b>Commissioner Edmonson</b>	<b>Jose Granda</b> Access Committee Chair	Present
	District 4 <b>Commissioner Heyman</b>	<b>Jesus Garcia</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair & Transportation & Aviation Committee Chair	Present
	District 5 <b>Commissioner Barreiro</b>	<b>Ernie Martinez</b> CODI Chairman	Present
	District 6 <b>Commissioner Sosa</b>	<b>Ora Prilleltensky</b>	Present
	District 7 <b>Commissioner Suarez</b>	<b>Harry Horgan</b> Outreach Committee Chair	Present
	District 8 <b>Commissioner Levine Cava</b>	<b>Elizabeth Merklng</b>	Present
	District 9 <b>Commissioner Moss</b>	<b>Ronald Fulton</b> CODI Secretary	Present
	District 10 <b>Commissioner Souto</b>	<b>Russell Otway</b>	<b>Excused Absence</b>
	District 11 <b>Commissioner Zapata</b>	<b>PENDING APPOINTMENT</b>	
	District 12 <b>Commissioner Diaz</b>	<b>Maria “Mercedes” Villar</b>	Present
	District 13 <b>Commissioner Bovo</b>	<b>Alan Rigerman</b>	<b>Excused Absence</b>

	<p><b>Miami-Dade County Staff Present</b></p>	<p><b>Heidi Johnson-Wright, ISD</b> ADA Coordinator</p> <p><b>Skarlex Alorda, ISD</b> ADA Office Support Specialist II &amp; Recording Secretary</p> <p><b>Frank Balzebre, Office of the Mayor</b> Mayor's Aide</p> <p><b>Felix Pereira, Seaport</b> ADA Coordinator/Chief of Engineering</p> <p><b>Julio Martinez, PWWM</b> ADA Coordinator/Sidewalk Coordinator</p> <p><b>Ricardo Fernandez, Aviation</b> ADA Coordinator/Landside Operations Supervisor &amp;</p> <p><b>Luis Gonzalez, Seaport</b> ADA Coordinator/Senior HR Manager</p> <p><b>Lynette Chiverton, MDT</b> Paratransit Administrator</p> <p><b>Daniel White, MDT</b> Paratransit Support Specialist II</p> <p><b>Lucy Binhack, PROS</b> ADA Coordinator/Disability Services Manager</p>	
<p><b>II.</b></p>	<p><b>Approval of Agenda</b></p>	<p>Chairman Ernie Martinez requested a motion to approve the agenda. Ora Prilleltensky made the motion to approve; motion seconded by Elizabeth Merkling. Motion passed.</p>	
<p><b>III.</b></p>	<p><b>Approval of CODI Minutes</b></p>	<p>Chairman Martinez requested a motion to approve the April 22, 2015 minutes. Mr. Fulton said the minutes should reflect exactly the discussing about the meeting with Deputy Mayor Benford on the Outreach Internship Program. Chairman Martinez asked Mr. Fulton if the minutes are inaccurate. Mr. Fulton reiterated that the minutes should reflect more of the discussion.</p> <p>Chairman Martinez asked Ms. Johnson-Wright about what is required to be reflected in meeting minutes. Ms. Johnson-Wright said minutes are a summary of the meeting itself. The ADA Office typically produces minutes that are more detailed than what the law requires.</p> <p>Chairman Martinez asked Assistant County Attorney Shanika Graves to weigh</p>	

		<p>in the matter. Ms. Graves asked if the minutes are accurate. That is, is there any dispute on the accuracy of what is currently included in the minutes? Ms. Graves said what she has gathered is that Mr. Fulton would like for the minutes to be more detailed. Mr. Fulton said he wasn't seeking more details in the minutes but rather that the minutes should include the reason behind that specific discussion. He wanted his fellow board members to know what exactly transpired.</p> <p>Ms. Graves said that the minutes summarize what occurred at the meeting. If the board members do not agree with the minutes, then they should be revised. Otherwise, the minutes should stand as they are. One of the functions of the board is to review the minutes and determine their accuracy. Ms. Graves said CODI does not need to go into full detail of what happened at the meeting. Ms. Graves asked the board members if they want clarification on this discussion. Mr. Gregory said he would like clarification and suggested Mr. Fulton request that the minutes reflect more detail. Mr. Fulton said he wants the minutes to reflect what transpired at the Sunshine meeting between Chairman Martinez and Mr. Benford. Mr. Jackson David said that the minutes already include everything that Mr. Fulton mentioned. A discussion ensued.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Chairman Ernie Martinez requested a motion to approve the April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 minutes. Elizabeth Merklings made the motion to approve; motion seconded by Ora Prilleltensky. Motion passed. Followed by voting which all were in favor.</p>
<p><b>IV. Open Comments</b></p>		<p>Ms. Binhack said that Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces has begun an internship program for young adults with disabilities in partnership with the Agency for People with Disabilities (AAPD). The internships are 20 hours per week for six to eight weeks. Interns are paid living wage of \$11.17 per hour. There were individuals with job coaches were hired and paid through AAPD. As a result, one intern was hired and two are being processed for the paid internships. Another round of interviews starts in the fall.</p> <p>Mr. Rigerman raised the issue of accessible parking for the SPCC. He believes the parking, such as the West Lot garage across the street, is too far away. Mr. Balzebre suggested that CODI engage Mr. Art Noriega from the Miami Parking Authority. Chairman Martinez said he will champion this item and invite Mr. Noriega to a CODI meeting.</p> <p>Chairman Martinez said that Ms. Prilleltensky's item regarding access between the Science Museum and Metrorail station should be an item for the Transportation &amp; Aviation Committee. The next Transportation &amp; Aviation Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, June 9, 2015.</p> <p>Ms. Merklings suggested that CODI have access to STS on-board videos when a</p>

		<p>rider makes a complaint. This would clarify situations and help resolve them. Mr. Garcia said he will try to add this as an agenda item at the next Transportation &amp; Aviation Committee meeting.</p> <p>Chairman Martinez asked the Transit staff if they are aware of these complaints. Ms. Chiverton said that the drivers are supposed to document everything and write a report if there is an incident. Ms. Chiverton said safety complaints are addressed immediately. If a client is disruptive, he or she may receive a verbal warning or suspension. Ms. Chiverton said she is unaware of any recent incidents in which drivers have been assaulted by clients. A discussion ensued.</p>
	<p><b>Chairman Report:</b></p>	<p><b>Congratulations to Miami Heat Wheels WNBA (Jackson David-District 2)</b></p> <p>Chairman Martinez congratulated Mr. David and the Miami Heat Wheels Basketball Champs. Mr. David thanked everyone, especially Mr. Balzebre for having May 19 declared the Miami Heat Wheels Day Mr. David thanked Ms. Binhack for providing the park.</p> <hr/> <p><b>BCC Agendas &amp; Committees with Commissioners</b></p> <p>Chairman Martinez told CODI members they have an obligation to maintain a good relationship with their appointing commissioners. They should meet with their commissioners at least quarterly. Commissioners can keep CODI apprised of legislation and issues that will affect the disability community. Board members need to inform their commissioners about the issues that matter to CODI. Board members should also review advance BCC agendas online for items that affect the disability community.</p>

	<p><b>Chairman Comments:</b></p>	<p><b>Rules Of Decorum (Ora Prilleltensky)</b></p> <p>Ms. Prilleltensky shared a one-page document on group decorum. A great outcome is dependent on a good process. Tasks and social goals are required. A task gets the job done and a social goal maintains the relationship. Group cohesion is based on unity, trust, respect and a supportive climate. Ms. Prilleltensky said that all groups need rules to guide behavior. Rules will help CODI's collective mission. CODI members' spirited discussions and different points of view should enrich the group. Key points of decorum include practicing good listening skills, communicating with respect, being assertive -- not aggressive -- and being tough on issues rather than individuals.</p> <hr/> <p><b>New Committee - Ordinance &amp; By-laws Review Committee</b></p>
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		<p>Chairman Martinez named Ora Prilleltensky, Russell Otway, Damian Gregory and Harry Horgan as members of this committee. A meeting date of June 17, 2015 from 1-3pm. A conference room yet to be determined.</p>
	<p><b>Information Items:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Johnson-Wright and Chairman Martinez said there will be no more multiple CODI meetings held the same day. It is too great a burden on both CODI and ADA Office staff.</li> <li>• Ms. Alorda discussed the various financial disclosure forms. The Source of Income Statement is the County form and is one page in length while the Financial Statement of Interest (Form 1) is a longer State form. CODI members can choose which one they wish to file. Filing deadline is July 1, 2015. Any questions should be directed to Robert Thompson at the Ethics Commission.</li> <li>• Ms. Chiverton said MDT staff attended a Federal Transit Administration Triennial review last month. STS got a great review from FTA. They only had one negative finding: include more detailed information in denial letters.  Ms. Chiverton said MDT can share some of the info requested by CODI regarding STS service. Numbers of late vehicles and or other types of complaints can be provided. Ms. Chiverton said the complaint reports formerly provided to the Local Coordinating Board can be provided to CODI.  <b>Mr. Jackson asked for details about the STS complaint follow-up process.</b> How many complaints must a driver receive to be suspended? Ms. Chiverton said complaints are investigated quickly and then MDT responds in writing. Driver discipline or suspension depends on the severity of the complaint. If it's a minor safety issue, the driver might simply need to be retrained. Also, there is a five strikes rule: five disciplinary actions will lead to MDT asking Transportation America to terminate the driver. A discussion ensued.  Ms. Merklingsaid is time to transition to a proactive, rather than reactive, approach. She described a complaint she made about a driver that made her get out of the vehicle. Ms. Merklingsaid such behavior must be stopped. Cameras in the vehicles would put an end to this.  Ms. Merklingsaid inquired about MDT surveying STS riders for feedback. Ms. Chiverton said doing a comprehensive survey is expensive and would involve CODI's input. It's not a dead issue. It just lacks funding at this point in time. A discussion ensued.</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Horgan: ADA 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.</b> Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs has kindly invited CODI to piggy-back on its ADA Silver Anniversary Summit. It is scheduled for September 24 and 25, 2015 at the Adrienne Arsht Center. The conference attendees will be folks who work for arts organizations that receive grant funds from the County.</li> </ul>

		<p>These include people who manage performing arts theaters, who design exhibits for museums, who do outreach and public relations work for art organizations, who manage dance troupes, etc. The attendees want to know how to best accommodate arts patrons with disabilities. There will be training presentations, panel discussions and performances. CODI will have an hour the morning of Sept. 24 to speak about the basics of the ADA and what it means to people with disabilities. A discussion ensued.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Fulton: CODI retreat planning.</b> Mr. Fulton said that the library across the street would be a great place for the retreat. Chairman Martinez asked Mr. Fulton to work up an agenda for discussion at CODI's June 24 meeting.</li> </ul>
	<b>Adjournment</b>	The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.
	<b>Next CODI Meeting:</b>	Next CODI monthly meeting: June 24, 2015 at 1:30pm.