



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

Date:	Tuesday, April 23, 2024	
Time:	10:30 AM – 1 PM	
Call to Order Time:	10:45 AM	
Meeting Adjourned:	12:29 PM	
Opening and Attendance: Attendance recorded. Call to Order. Copies of documents were distributed.		
District 1 Commissioner Oliver G. Gilbert, III	Damian Gregory Chairman	A
District 2 Commissioner Marliene Bastien	Jackson David	P
District 3 Commissioner Keon Hardemon	Marilyn Orozco	P
District 4 Commissioner Micky Steinberg	Melissa Knowles	A
District 5 Commissioner Eileen Higgins	Eddie Sierra Vice Chairman	A
District 6 Commissioner Kevin M. Cabrera	Stephanie Aponte	A
District 7 Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado	Rabbi Yossi Harlig	A
District 8 Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins	Nicole Attong	P
District 9 Commissioner Kionne L. McGhee	Ulrica Garcia	P
District 10 Commissioner Anthony Rodriguez	Natalia Wong	P (only half session)
District 11 Commissioner Roberto J. Gonzalez	Katherine Magnoli Acting Chairperson	P
District 12 Commissioner Juan Carlos Bermudez	Maria Mercedes Villar	P
District 13 Commissioner René Garcia	Theo Karantsalis	P

The office is organizing ADA Celebration events to be held July 24-26 at the SPCC, with performers (music, dance, etc.) with disabilities, art group activity, public speakers including the Mayor and Commissioners. The ADA Office would like CODI to join and participate. There will be disability etiquette/sensitivity training at the SPCC on July 24, participatory art by Zot Art on July 25, and performances by groups such as Camp Shriver. July 26 is the official ADA signing anniversary with a big celebration for physical disabilities, artists and performers.

This year's Disability Resource Fair is scheduled for Saturday, September 21 at the Westchester Regional Library on Coral Way. The Children's Trust is sponsoring the event, with a focus on youth, but will have material for everyone. Parent to Parent will speak about families, college, and social services. Advocacy Network on Disabilities will speak on issues and services for 18 to 21-year-olds. ABLE United will talk about ABLE accounts, finances, etc. Sensory area will be set up by Spectrum Family for kids. We will also have resources for adults including housing, transportation, health/wellness, etc. Let Mike Moran know if you have any organizations that you'd like us to invite. We'd love to have CODI with a table too, to represent a voice for Miami-Dade County PWDs. The Westchester Library is a very good location: lots of surface parking, elevator, etc. There's a new wellness center near the library, too. We'd like to have basketball, tennis, and anything to show people with physical disabilities being active and breaking stigmas about PWDs.

Nicole Attong wants CODI members to attend the ADA events with a specific schedule for July 24-26. Jody Cox will create a sign-in sheet for CODI members to sign up. Kat Magnoli asked for a motion to have a CODI table. Nicole Attong clarified the motion. Vote was approved for CODI members to attend the ADA events and have a table on July 24-26.

Mike Moran has been doing ADA inspections of County facilities, looking for ADA barriers. Building managers work well with us. We also did the Bars, Doors, and Walls training initiative to teach employees how to spot three types of common and easily fixable ADA barriers. Mike Moran explained ADA inspections and how they work, how they help find and fix ADA barriers.

Heidi Johnson gave an overview of the Municipal Parking Fines Reimbursement Program. Handicapped parking laws are enforced by municipalities. Money from citations goes into accounts managed by the Clerk of Courts. The munis can apply for that money to be reimbursed, to be used only for accessibility and to address ADA issues, programs, services, etc. The cities, towns and villages have to fill out documents to receive the money within 60 days of receipt of the invitation letters, which are sent out in August. We get about 15-20 out of 34 municipalities participating every year. In 2023, \$249,000 was collected and given to 15 municipalities.

Ms. Johnson said that the ADA Office is presenting training to area hoteliers this Thursday. We'll help hotels to identify ADA issues and to provide useful access information to hotel guests. We've

also got a SharePoint site with archived ADA trainings. Tomorrow we have the ADACP quarterly meeting for ADA coordinators and other compliance professionals on many different issues. Tomorrow's meeting will focus on evaluating programs/services and making sure they are ADA compliant.

4. Old Business:

a. STS Survey: CODI Members' Roles (Acting Chairperson Kat Magnoli)

b. Follow-up: Transitioning CODI from ADA Office to the Office of Community Advocacy (Acting Chairperson Kat Magnoli)

- Ms. Magnoli mentioned that she had a terrible experience with STS transportation, waiting 1.5 hours on a ride, waiting alone and scared. Driver was rude.
- Nicole Attong wants CODI to help create a survey on STS. Need a detailed survey because Yes or No questions/answers are not enough. Need 1-5 scale survey. Kat and Nicole want a vote for scale system, made via a collaboration between FIU and CODI. The survey must be valid and constructed with support from multiple parties. Ms. Johnson emphasized the need for Transit and STS to participate in developing the survey.
- Theo said he beta tested Metro Connect with a survey on an app and wants STS to have the same thing. Jackson clarified the motion: "the County and STS will determine how the survey will be implemented. Right now we're getting to the part of getting the survey done and follow-up working with the county on how we will implement it." Katherine Magnoli asked for everyone to vote on this STS survey motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Nicole Attong wants to understand the steps to transition CODI to the Community Advocacy Office the process. Ms. Johnson said a transition would require legislative action by the BCC. Past attempts have failed because CODI failed to inform the Commissioners as to why the transition was needed. CODI must prove the need to the commissioners so they can support the transition with funding a board secretary position.
- Jackson wants Laura Morilla from Advocacy invited to the next CODI meeting so she can explain what we need to accomplish the transition. We must make sure to have a plan for discussion and what we expect Laura to do for us. Chairman Damian Gregory will invite Laura Morilla to attend the May CODI meeting.

5. Next Scheduled Meeting and Adjournment: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 - 10:30am-1pm
SPCC 18-4

- Meeting officially adjourned at 12:29 PM.