

**CITY OF FRESNO
DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

APPROVED - MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2009 MEETING

DAC Commission Members Present: Robert Hand, Chair, Ron Sheppard, Michelle Bronson, Mary Beth Randall, Rachelle Taylor, Carlos Duarte (*ex officio*)

Staff Present: Elizabeth Kunz, DAC Secretary, Bryan Jones, Traffic Engineering Manager, Sylvia Shelton, Public Works Services Aide

Call to Order and Self Introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Member Sheppard, seconded by Member Taylor, duly carried, the minutes of July 13, 2009 were approved.

MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Member Sheppard thanked the City of Fresno for supporting Addicott School in their trip to the zoo.

Chair Hand reported that the Western Regional Disability Conference will be held September 25, 2009. See him if interested in the conference.

Member Bronson stated that September 21-25, 2009 is Deaf Awareness Week.

UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATION

Vikkie Calderon, with the City of Fresno Department of Airports, shared that the airport has a new service animal relief area for service animals that accompany people with disabilities through the

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airport. It provides a designated safe, humane, and secured area for these animals, located just outside Gate 6.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Officers to be elected are Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Ex officio Member Duarte nominated Member Bronson for Chairman. Member Bronson declined the nomination.

Member Sheppard nominated Chair Hand to continue as Chairman. Chair Hand accepted the nomination.

Chair Hand nominated Member Taylor for Chairman. Member Taylor declined the nomination.

Member Bronson seconded the nomination of Chair Hand for Chairman and the vote carried. Chair Hand abstained.

Carol Zaun suggested Member Randall for office.

Chair Hand nominated Member Taylor for Vice Chairman, seconded by Member Sheppard, and accepted the comment from the floor.

A vote was taken on the motion on the floor, and carried.

ACTION ITEM: REVIEW AND SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS OF THE 2009 DAC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Chair Hand commended Member Sheppard for coming up with the DAC Achievement Award concept. The organization nominees are LARCS and the San Joaquin Valley Rehabilitation Hospital, and the individual nominees are Allona Moore, Dr. Bill Noblet, Sam Alvarado, and Dr. Ed Eames.

Member Randall nominated LARCS for the organization award and Dr. Eames for the individual award. Member Sheppard seconded the nomination. A vote was taken and carried. The awards will be given out with a Proclamation at a City Council Meeting the first part of October.

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**PRESENTATION ON ROUNDABOUTS BY BRYAN JONES, CITY OF FRESNO
TRAFFIC ENGINEERING MANAGER**

Mr. Jones gave an in-depth Power Point presentation on roundabouts and their usefulness in traffic control.

Elizabeth Kunz stated that Mr. Jones will be presenting on roundabouts to the City Council. The DAC has been requested to review the presentation and provide comments and/or recommendations to City Council. .

Chair Hand opened the floor to comments or questions from the public on this issue.

Carol Zaun addressed the Commission. She expressed concern about how pedestrians can hear cars coming at a roundabout with the introduction of the quiet-running hybrid cars.

Following much discussion by the DAC, Chair Hand suggested that a subcommittee be formed to research concerns and issues people with disabilities would have with roundabouts.

Chair Hand again asked for input from the public.

Ed Eames addressed the Commission. He congratulated Mr. Jones on his presentation. He stated that he is opposed to roundabouts in areas of high pedestrian traffic. He suggested the subcommittee contact the Orientation and Mobility Specialists who teach students to negotiate roundabouts to see if they have any innovative training techniques that could be shared. He also reported that the Access Board is considering coming up with guidelines for the installation of accessible and safe roundabouts.

Chair Hand appointed Members Randall and Sheppard to a subcommittee to research accessibility issues of roundabouts for people with disabilities. He and Member Bronson both suggested they contact the Valley Center for the Blind and ask them for recommendations.

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ACTION ITEM: DEVELOPMENT OF RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING USE OF ROUNDABOUTS IN THE CITY OF FRESNO

No action taken at this time.

DISCUSSION ITEM: REPORT ON JUNE 19, 2009 TRANSPORTATION WORKING GROUP MEETING, MEMBER FILLPOT/MEMBER RANDALL

Member Randall reported that she and Member Fillpot met with a Transportation Working Group where they discussed how to have a positive impact on transportation for people with disabilities. A full report will be put on the October 12, 2009 agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before the Commission, the hour of 7:10 p.m. having arrived and hearing no objection, Member Sheppard made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Member Randall seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.