

Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities Committee Minutes
 Hybrid Meeting, hosted virtually via Zoom and in person at
 Tacoma Municipal Building
 Friday March 8, 2024

Call to Order	Chair Hester called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM Vice Chair Sidhu read the Land Acknowledgement
Commissioners Present	Commissioner Chair Hester Outgoing Vice Chair Sidhu Incoming Vice Chair Edick Waltier Holloway Coleman McRae Williams
Commissioners Absent	Perriman (excused) (Caldwell excused), Williams (excused)
City Staff Present	Lucas Smiraldo, Angel Pele, Gail Himes, Elliott Barnett, Alysa Torrez, Chris Seaman
Guests Present – Community	Nalani Linder, Julian Wheeler, Ivan Tudela
Ice Breaker	“What is a safe place, or who is a safe person who helps that helps you relax and breather easier?”
Adoption of Agenda	Commissioner McRae made a motion to adopt the March 8th agenda. Commissioners Coleman and Edick simultaneously seconded the motion. The ayes have it and the agenda is approved.
Acceptance of Minutes	Commissioner Edick made a motion to adopt the February Minutes Commissioner Coleman seconded the motion. The ayes have it and minutes were adopted.
Public Comment	Ivan Tudela reminded the commission that March is Developmental Disability Awareness month and to spread the word.
Nominations for officers for 2024 and March elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Hester was nominated for Chair and • Commissioner Edick was nominated for Vice Chair in February. • No other nominations were offered and Vice Chair Sidhu made a motion to close nominations for a vote which was seconded and passed.

	<p>A motion was made by Sidhu to call for a vote for Hester and seconded by Coleman. Commissioner Hester was voted in as chair for a new term unanimously.</p> <p>Commissioner Edick was voted in as Vice Chair unanimously.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A motion was made by Coleman and seconded by Sidhu for the Vice Chair. Commissioner Edick was voted in as Vice Chair unanimously. • Commissioner Coleman praised Vice Chair Edick and indicated that Ms. Edick will be a guest speaker at a future event organized by Commissioner Coleman.
<p>TACID Presentation Nalani Linder, Executive Director</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TACID has been in building for 40 years. City of Tacoma owns the building and Tacoma Community College owns the land in support of TACOD mission. • TACID is not designed for crisis management or therapeutic center but more as a community center. • Last year: 46% of participants had physical disability and 42% has behavioral disability 12% experienced both. 971 Participants were involved in TACID in 2023. Prior to COVID shutdown the number was over 2,500 so working their way back. • Offered 11,180 services including Peer Support, Wellness Activities, information and Referral. • Focus on Community, acceptance. Participant choice, Cognitive Sensory, Physical and Mental Health and support for Substance Abuse. • Wellness and Recovery Peer Support. Evidence based practices for creating hope. Empowerment and social connection by tapping into common experiences, challenges, and solutions. • Current groups include LGBTQia youth support, • Wellness programs include Chair Yoga, Meditation and Sound Bath, Drum Circles, Chair Massage and Reiki. • Offer dayroom for arts and crafts, puzzles, games and movement and several school districts bring youth with disabilities to tap into these resources including Franklin Pierce and, Bethel and University Place. • Offer 211 as informational and referral services to connect community services. • Other programs include Tacoma Assoc for the Deaf, Amputee Support, Traumatic Brain Injury support and NAMI. • Will host a resource fair on May 11th from 1-3 PM. All are invited to attend and/or host a table. • Open House on June 14th from 12-1 PM • For information contact Nalani@tacid.org

	<p>Question and Answer:</p> <p>Edick: How do you support people who can't access services and don't know what you offer?</p> <p>Linder: Facebook, word of mouth and presentations but would like to do more and welcome ideas from Commission.</p> <p>Smiraldo: Perhaps several commissioners can join Linder and discuss outreach and communication strategies. Hester and Holloway interested in offering resources and network of Center for Independence.</p>
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<p>Planning Commission Presentation: Elliott Barnett with support from team members.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the past three quarters of housing was Single Family designation • Current proposed zoning changes would allow for more Middle Housing and housing types. • Renewed emphasis on tree planting, reduced parking requirements, affordability, and building homeownership. • Want to establish housing near walkable features • One priority goal is to build more accessible housing and visit-ability adds little to cost of development and can achieve more than zoning code bonuses. • Proposal would extend visit-ability to middle housing with just three or more units rather than current minimum of ten units. • Features include: No stairs and a clear wider path to front entry, living room and bathroom and kitchen unless existing topography is prohibitive. • Will need to amend IRC with Washington State Business Council. • Next steps” submit for building code approval • Evaluate zoning codes to increase options • Consider statewide level advocacy • Will need to put forward for statewide amendment to adapt this new standard. • Plan to submit in next three months. • If State passes, could apply in summer of 2025 <p>Commissioner Sidhu: I believe in these changes as being significant.</p> <p>Chair Hester: We still need to pursue fully accessible housing expansion</p> <p>Chris Seaman: We currently don't have powerful incentives to spur home building for fully accessible housing so more work to be done here.</p> <p>TACOD commissioners reviewed content of support letter in advance of the meeting and moved this to a vote to be sent to the planning commission as part of public comment and support for the changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved in support by Holloway • Seconded by Sidhu
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The motion passed unanimously. • Team member Lucas Shadduck expressed gratitude
Liaison Report – Office of Equity & Human Rights – Lucas Smiraldo	Lucas shared an update <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accessible Taxi Report – Rewrite underway to condense report and place data portions in appendix documents. Hope to present by third quarter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2. CBC Orientation and Open Government Training <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. All commissioners will be asked to participate in orientation in 2024 and visit and complete Open Government Training that training slated for second quarter of May 17, 2024 in Council Chambers and as a hybrid in zoom. 3. TACOD Retreat—Lucas Presented minutes and emerging priorities that came from the February Strategic Plan Retreat. Another follow up meeting to confirm priorities will be scheduled with Mariama Suwaneh in March. Big ideas included Presenting State of Disability in Tacoma Report in 2025 Establishing Project Management Process for TACOD priorities moving forward 4. Establishing a broad Transportation Committee in place of current “accessible taxi” committee that would address the many facets of transportation for people with disabilities. Lucas introduced Angel Pele who is his new supervisor and will assist him in serving TACOD.
Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold follow up meeting to the retreat facilitated by Mariama Suwaneh • Deliver support letter to Planning Commission regarding proposed zoning changes and expansion of Visit-ability. • Several Commissioners will reach out to Nalani Linder at TACID to help the center explore new outreach and communication paths to promote the work and resources there.
Emergency Management—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is ramping up on assessments on emergency shelters
Ivan Tudela– Pierce County Human Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No updates
Report from PCAC	Held meeting to establish several seats on Pierce County Transportation Advisory Committee. Seeking voices to address transportation, parking and

	planning.
Committee Reports	Public Works—Gail Himes reported Preliminary work on 64 th and McKinley access upgrades is underway. Enhancements will be much like those on 64 th and Pacific.
Individual Commissioner Reports	Holloway: First week of April is emergency Planning Conference to include a town hall event. Hester: Pierce County Disability Access will hold a summit soon.
Invitation for Community Input	None
New Business or Good of the Order	None
Adjournment	Motion was made to adjourn by Sidhu and was seconded by Holloway and passed Adjourned at 6:03 PM