

Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities Committee Minutes

Hybrid Meeting, hosted virtually via Zoom and in person at
Emergency Operations Center for Pierce County
Friday March 10, 2023

Call to Order	Chair Monteros called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM
Commissioners Present	Commissioner: Jim Williams Kristy Willet Tony Caldwell Amin Tony Hester Krystal Monteros Todd Holloway Lukas Barfield Aimee Sidhu
Commissioners Absent	Commissioner Byram was excused.
City Staff Present	Rita Moore, Ivan Tudela
Guests Present – Community	Hayley Edick, Julian Wheeler
Ice Breaker	What was your favorite breakfast from your childhood? Are there any memories associated?
Adoption of Agenda	Commissioner Sidu made a motion to adopt the March 10 agenda. Commissioner Halloway seconded the motion. The ayes have it and the agenda is adopted.
Acceptance of Minutes	Commissioner Holloway made a motion to adopt the February 10 Minutes Commissioner Hester seconded the motion. The ayes have it and minutes were adopted.
Public Comment	Ms. Edick – Introduced to a cellphone app that you can point cell camera at street signals to be able to tell (though beeps and vibrates) when the light is going to change; this is helpful when there are no sound signals. Name of App= Okoko Julian Wheeler – Acknowledge the privilege of being as disabled person without the work of Judy Huemann.

Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair for 2023

Vote will be held in April

Commissioner Holloway nominates Commission Tony Hester to be the Chair of TACOD

2nd by Commissioner Williams

Monteros nominated Sidhu for Vice Chair

2nd by Williams, Holloway.

Commissioner Sidhu nominated Monteros for Vice Chair

2nd by Commissioner Holloway.

Lucas – Commissioner Monteros is terming out TACOD term in August; she can take a year break before deciding to apply to TACOD

Class and Comp Update—

Shelby Fritz, Director

Human Resources

Commissioner Questions and Dialogue

Technical issues prevented Ms. Fritz to join.

She will be rescheduled for meeting in May.

Chair Reports

Krystal Monteros, Chair

- Being interviewed for a book.
- Had meeting with Berry Long, real-estate agent for people with disabilities. Reached out to Chair Monteros to be spokesperson for his business. Mr. Long is interested in creating a TV show that highlights wheelchair users doing adventurous things.
- Had meeting with Litter Free 253; consulted Chair Monteros to understand accessibility at an upcoming.

Liaison Report – Office of Equity & Human Rights –

Lucas Smiraldo

1. Accessible Taxi Report Update
 - Raw Report is ready. Looking into options to identify someone to help polish report into Council ready repot.
2. Meeting Commission Questions with TPD Chief Moore
 - Wednesday April 26th Hybrid Meeting at Peace Community Center. Meeting will be from 5:00 – 7:00 PM
 - 10 Questions have been formulated and distributed to TPD to prepare answers in advance.
3. New internal committee to address internal digital accessibility in the city of Tacoma
 - Starting with COT staff to understand how to increase accessibility.
 - More updates to come.
4. Planning for 64th and Pacific Celebration 2023
 - Commissioner spoke to this earlier; will set up another time soon.
5. OEHR Staff Drena Sellers is working on updating applications for CBCs, demographic data collection, and outreach methods.

Report from Active Subcommittees

Public Works—Anthony Caldwell

- May will be a good month for the Pac Ave & 64th Street. Do not have a specific date, but Thursday or Friday.
- Next meeting we will discuss and finalize any last details (pay particular attention to issues with parking).
- Event will take close coordination with Public Works and Gail Himes, CoT ADA Coordinator (sp?).
- There is growing awareness around accessible sidewalks; Public Works Committee and TACOD will continue and partner to make sidewalks more accessible.

Comment:

Chair Monteros – encourages partnerships across CBCs, and subcommittees for stronger unity on issues.

**Emergency Management—
Todd Holloway**

- Developing video about accessibility in Emergency Management.
- Lost an icon in disability movement, Judy Huemann. Commissioner Holloway will share information about her legacy and work.
- Met with folks from Global Alliance for Disaster Response (GADR).

**Access and Functional Needs Pierce County —
Ivan Tudela**

- During freezing temperatures, Emergency Management provided hypothermia kits, tarps, and tie downs.
- Advanced planning discussion about coming hot weather.
- Watch the PCTV video starring commissioners Tony and Krystal: <https://youtu.be/05kZGoISbYI>
- Visit the PCDEM - Access and Functional Needs Program page with video library: <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/4236/Access-and-Functional-Needs-Program>
- For free smoke alarms (including bed shakers and alarms with strobe/flashing lights) go to redcross.org/nwhomefire or call 1-833-918-1531\
- AFN Conference in Tukwila had 28 participants.

Commissioners watched the video starring Commissioners Hester & Monteros – there were many kudos!

**Report from PCAC —
Tony Hester**

- General meeting today; committee discussed
- Getting a projected elevated to the GCD (Gov Committee on Disability)
 - Developing an Ad to put on County Website & Facebook
 - Outreach at 3/16 “Agency Consortium” run by Sherry Colman from Partnership Café – so resource-based agencies can have a dialog.

Invitation for Community Input

No members of the community were present for input.

**New Business or
Good of the Order**

Sidhu: advertising an opportunity of doctoral occupational therapist that is looking to interview people with disabilities and experience in healthcare system.

Hester: Wishing a happy birthday to Commissioner Holloway.

Monteros: Decriminalizing Mobility Committee, discussion on police reform. Offered perspective of policing on people with disabilities. For TACODs awareness:

In the City of Oakland, there is a group that is working with the help police force to help respond to mental health crisis calls. There are 12 cities in the county that are working with this organization.

- Commissioners are interested in program like this Tacoma.

Adjournment

Commissioner Holloway made motion to adjourn
Commissioner Sidhu made a motion to adjourn
The 5:59