

**Office of Equity & Civil Rights
 Mayor’s Commission on Disabilities
 Meeting Minutes
 June 26, 2024**

Voting	26-Jun
Bouma, Chair	x
Blevins	x
Fields	x
Grade	x
Greenberg	x
Haynes	
Jackson	x
Levine	x
Trentadue	
Paxton	x

Non-Voting	26-Jun		
BCDSS		DHCD Curtis	
BCFD Yancey/Brewer	x	DHR Butwin	x
BCHD Pugh	x	DOT Gardener	
BCPSS Paxton/Pena	x	HABC Elam	
BCRP Nyakoe		Law Levine	x
BPD Newman		MOED	
Com. on Aging		OEM Bright/Smith	
CRC Pineda		Planning French	
		Pratt Library Kelly/Stokes	E

Office of Equity and Civil Rights:
 Viola Woolums
 Robin Drummond

Guests:
 Chip Woods – St. Peter’s Adult Learning Center
 Sterling France
 Keyonna Mayo – Image Center
 Chris Mason-Hale – Kennedy Krieger Institute
 Nikki Stokes – Pathfinders for Autism

I. Welcome/Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Aloma Bouma at 1:05 pm.
- Chairperson Aloma requested a rollcall and welcomed everyone.

II. Opening Remarks

- Opening remarks were given by Chairperson Aloma Bouma.
- Motion to hold over approval of the last meeting's minutes to September 2024 was made by William Fields seconded by Janice Jackson. Motion carried.

III. OECR Program Report

- Program Report was given by Viola Woolums.
- Thanks to MCD for feedback about AFRAM.
- Thank you to all MCD members who completed their financial disclosures!
- Signup form has been circulated if you want to join OECR to participate in the Baltimore Trans Pride Parade and Block Party on Saturday, June 29.
- OECR's Women's Commission is working with the Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) through its Inform Women, Transform Lives grant – link has been circulated for caregivers to participate in a virtual focus group.
- The Baltimore City Association of the Deaf is partnering with OECR to host 2 accessibility trainings in the fall – one for the public and public-facing employees, one for emergency responders and medical personnel. Dates TBD.
- Next meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2024, at 1:00pm with additional 2024 meetings as follows:
October 23
November 27
- Accessibility Concerns: 9 disability inquiries were received since the last MCD meeting. They address the following categories of concerns: 2 service referrals, 3 employment, 1 right of way, 1 program accessibility, 1 effective communication, 1 parking. William Fields noted a major sidewalk blocked.

IV. MCD Chairperson Update

- Civil Rights Week – Chair and Members suggested having workshops on the topic of children with disabilities.
 - Yojinde Paxton suggested including the Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success as a partner.
 - What activities and programming for students must ensure that they are engaged, not just present.

- Adam Levine suggested an attorney from the MCCR as a panelist. Chair Bouma suggested someone from Levine's office.
- Janice Jackson suggested a theme to tie all the disability-related presentations during the week together.

V. ADA Inquiry Update

- Applicant for SSA Disability called looking for additional resources while their application is pending. Referral was made to BCHD for benefits checkup.
- A blind individual called for a list of employers who hire blind people. Information about discrimination was given and Blind Industries specifically recommended. Chair Bouma will follow up with resources.
- Blind resident requested a neighborhood sign to alert people to a blind person in the neighborhood. Referral was made to DOT.
- Request for a person with a disability who wants to buy a home. Chair Bouma will follow up with resources.
- Request for accommodation for a group of patrons with disabilities improperly handled at pool. Working with Recreation and Parks to review and revise policies.
- Two city agencies consulted with OECR on employment concerns.
- Resident contacted OECR about inaccessible feature on Baltimore Police Department (BPD) website. Referral to and discussion with BCIT.
- Caller noticed some accessible parking meters in locations with obstructions and will follow up with exact locations.

VI. Open forum

- Viola Woolums asked everyone to please continue to send in events and activities even if there is no meeting.

IX. Closing

- Next meeting is scheduled for September 2024 via Zoom.
- There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Aloma asked for a motion to adjourn.
- William Fields moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Chip Woods at 2:43 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Drummond
Special Assistant
Office of Equity and Civil Rights