

Meeting Minutes

Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities Regular Meeting

December 10, 2024 | 7:00 a.m.

Room 101, Chandler Community Center
125 E. Commonwealth Ave., Chandler, AZ



Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Fay at 7:06 a.m.

Roll Call

Commission Attendance

Chair Tom Fay
Vice Chair Kim Foy
Committee member Geoffrey Foote
Committee member Erin Fortner
Committee member Julie Lazzara
Committee member Justine McDilda

Staff Attendance

Becky Kuiper, Recreation Superintendent
Nora Boettcher, Adaptive Recreation
Supervisor
Raquel Delgado, Commission Secretary
John Sefton, Director Community Services

Absent

Committee member Jeff Deaver
Committee member William Hespel

1. Introduction new committee member Geoffrey Foote

Consent Agenda

2. October 8, 2024, Minutes
Regular Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

Consent Agenda Motion and Vote

Vice Chair Foy moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Seconded by Comm. Lazzara.

Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

Action Agenda

3. Approve Scholarship and Stipend Program Applications
Applicant: Katie Pawlik
Vice Chair Foy motioned to approve, Seconded by Comm. Lazzara. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).
4. Approve adding Ally of the Year to the Disability Awareness Awards.
Comm. Lazzara motioned to approve, Seconded by Vice Chair Foy. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).
5. Approve Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities 2025 Meeting Schedule.
Motion to approve Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities 2025 Meeting Schedule.
Comm. Lazzara motioned to approve, Seconded by Vice Chair Foy. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

Discussion

6. Presentation by Community Services Director John Sefton.

Mr. Sefton discussed the committee members' purpose for being on the committee. He further discussed covering administrative responsibilities for communication. It was discussed Mayor Hartke will be attending the February 2025 meeting. It was further discussed the role of an advisory committee to the mayor. Each members' commitment and contributions need to be brought forward for proper agenda management and rules of procedure for quorums, publishing and open meeting law. Mr. Sefton also discussed the other boards and commissions the Community Services department also supports for the city. Mr. Sefton stressed the importance of the commitment made by all members of the various committees, boards and commissions for the City of Chandler.

7. Review and de-brief of the 2024 Golf Challenge.

Ms. Kuiper reviewed the total raised from the Golf Challenge, \$29,990 before expenses, \$18,214 after expenses. These funds impact the current work being done and the resources available to fund additional programs or initiatives of interest to the committee. It was also noted the date for next year's Golf Challenge would be November 7, 2025, due

the strong request to have it scheduled on a Friday. Feedback from Comm. Lazzara was to include promotional media of the day event such as pictures and newsletters. It was discussed for all committee members to ensure they are signed up for the newsletter as it is opt-in. Also suggested was a committee members photo at events especially with any sponsors to help promote the committee and bring awareness to initiatives.

8. Discussion of the upcoming 2025 Fun Run, to be held Thursday, February 20, 2025.

Discussion ensued to review the highlights of the Fun Run, the event takes place every spring at Tumbleweed Park, with this year's run scheduled for February 20th. It was noted that the run is only one mile, making it accessible for various age groups, including younger children. The conversation highlighted the need to keep activities at the event engaging for large crowds, suggesting face painting, balloon animals, and bubbles as popular choices. It was also mentioned the importance of including students with disabilities, with invitations directed to teachers of specialty classrooms. Emphasis for need of the role of student partners and allies in supporting students with higher needs, and how recruitment measures like best buddies or allies groups help involve more participants.

The discussion concluded with the listing of items needed for students with motor skill challenges and securing volunteers for various roles, including running with student and serving food.

9. Discussion of the Disability Awareness Awards overall process, including a timeline.

The discussion outlined the overall process and timeline for the awards. The awards opened on December 5th, and the Ally Award, now approved, will be added today. The nomination period closes on January 31st, with all nominations ready for review leading up to the February committee meeting. It was emphasized the tight turnaround and noted that award winners will be notified, and the awards will be presented at the February 27th Council meeting.

Discussion highlighted the need for committee assistance in gathering nominations, mentioning that last year some categories lacked nominations. An email blast will be sent out to ensure everyone is aware of the nomination process. Committee members are encouraged to nominate individuals and reach out to their networks. Residency requirements clarified for different awards, noting that the Educator of the Year award does not require Chandler residency if the educator works in Chandler.

10. Discussion of In a Different Key movie screening, Chandler Center for the Arts on March 9, 2025. Opportunity to host a table with Community Services with possible action item to allocate budget for snacks and drinks up to \$1000.

Ms. Kuiper presented an exciting opportunity for the committee to host a table at a movie screening event, in collaboration with the Police Department and the DEI division. The documentary, "In a Different Key," follows the story of the first person diagnosed with autism and includes a panel discussion with representatives from public safety, the department, and individuals with autism.

The screening will be held at the Chamber Center for the Arts, with tabling starting at 1:00 PM and the movie at 2:00 PM. The committee is invited to host a table and possibly allocate funds for snacks. Committee members mentioned the need for updated signage and tablecloths, which will be discussed at the next meeting.

The target audience will be informed through newsletters and the Police Department's "Pizza with Police" program, aimed at fostering positive interactions between officers and community members with autism. The event is expected to attract a full house due to the combined departmental efforts and is free for participants. This discussion item format, allowing the committee to motion and vote on it today or include it in the next agenda. A motion was made by Vice Chair Foy and seconded by Comm. Foote to approve the allocation of up to \$1,000, with an additional suggestion for sponsorship recognition through a "snacks sponsored by" blurb. The motion was approved without opposition (Approved 6-0).

Calendar

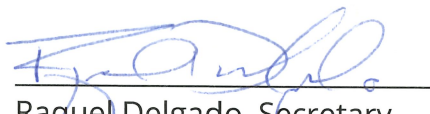
11. The next Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities meeting will be held January 14, 2025 at 7:00 a.m. in the Chandler Community Center, Room 101, 125 E. Commonwealth Ave.

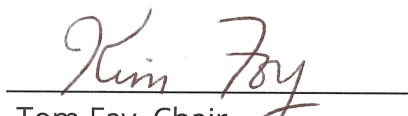
Information Items

12. Future agenda item - Division of Developmental Disabilities Presentation, January 14, 2025 meeting.
13. Future agenda item - Presentation by Mayor Kevin Hartke, February 11, 2025 meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 a.m. by Chair Fay.


Raquel Delgado, Secretary


Tom Fay, Chair