

**Commission on Disabilities
1st Meeting
11/14/06**

Present: Georgia Keeney, Shelly DeCaigny, Haim Einat, Roger Petry, Amanda Johnson(guest), Pam Griffin, John Weiske, Rob Weidner, Derek Kynell, Mags David, Ferry Veu, Beth Esselstrom

Excused/Absent: Penny Cragun, Kora Cavanaugh, Nancy Diener, Galynn White, Ken Norstrud, Deborah Peterson-Perlman, Trudie Hughes, Jon Berry, Raj Karim, Judy Broman

Call to order – 3:00 pm

- 1. Introductions and Welcome**
 - a. Special welcome to new members!**
 - b. Roster will be updated**
- 2. Commission Business:**
 - a. Review 2005-06 Annual Report and 2006-07 Operating Budget**
 - i. The final destination of this document is the Chancellor's Office**
- 3. New Business:**
 - a. The Flying Words Project – Access for All has requested funding in the amount of \$300 for this project. Funding was unanimously approved.**
 - b. Accessibility Issues**
 - i. Bathrooms**
 - 1. Access for All has reported that the bathroom in the science building has a stall door which opens inward instead of outward. The hinge was reversed on the door.**
 - 2. There are no power assist bathroom doors in CLA.**
 - 3. There are no power assist bathroom doors in the gym.**
 - 4. In the library there is one power assist bathroom door. However, the stall door in that bathroom is difficult to close.**
 - 5. SpHC women's bathroom is difficult to enter. Could the entrance door be removed?**
 - 6. Some of the toilet paper roll dispensers on campus are difficult to access. People have reported that they cannot reach them, as they are too low.**
 - 7. It is difficult to get in and out of the stalls in the Humanities bathrooms.**
 - ii. Doorways**
 - 1. Access for All submitted a letter regarding the metal beams between doors on campus being safety hazards.**
 - 2. When the metal beam in the middle of the ballroom doorway is removed, there is still a stump on the floor. This is a tripping hazard.**

iii. Possible Solutions

1. Some newer buildings have bathrooms without doors. Is this a possibility for some of the bathrooms on campus?
2. Derek Kynell, the Commission's FM rep, will find out more about plans for power assist doors in the renovations on campus.
3. Move toilet paper roll dispensers up, or purchase the simple toilet paper roll bars with no "cage" surrounding them.
4. Paint metal bars in doorways a more visible color. Possible incorporate reflective material.
5. Install an electronic beeper alert system to warn of obstacles. Have sensors on the baseboards and walking sticks. When the sensors meet, the system would beep.
6. Recommend installing doors without metal bars in the middle when considering new construction.
7. Observe accessibility while visiting other facilities/buildings. Bring ideas back to the Commission.
8. Invite John Rashid to our next meeting to participate in our discussion.

4. Around the Room Sharing

- i. Could FM create a map of the elevators and power assist doors on campus? The map could be accessed through a link on the welcome kiosk in Solon Campus Center.
 - ii. The Office of Admissions sign has been replaced with a sign which includes Braille.
 - iii. Work continues on assistive technology in the library labs.
 - iv. More students visiting AFA are requesting services for psychological disabilities and test anxiety. Students are referred to Health Services if further counseling is needed. It is nice to know where to refer students.
 - v. Staff from Housing and Residence Life will attend a conference on Asperger's Syndrome.
 - vi. Judy attended a conference on assistive technology.
5. Next meeting will be scheduled for January. Watch your e-mail for more info.
6. Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelly DeCaigny