



# Boston Disability Commission Advisory Board

BOSTON CITY HALL | ONE CITY HALL PLACE | 9th FLOOR | ROOM 967 | BOSTON MA, 02201  
617.635.3682 | fax 617.635.2726 | TTY 617.635.2541 | [www.cityofboston.gov/boardsandcommissions](http://www.cityofboston.gov/boardsandcommissions)

Minutes for Monday, December 14, 2015  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor BRA Board Room 900, Boston City Hall, 5:30 – 7:30 PM

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Staff Present:</b>
(AS) Allegra Stout (CR) Carl Richardson (KR) Kyle Robidoux (KC) Kimyatta Campbell	(KMC) Kristen McCosh, Commissioner (JD) Jessica Doonan
Not Present: (ZA) Zary Amirhosseini (MM) Marc (Moses) Mallard (HW) Heather Watkins (JW) John Winske	

KRISTEN MCCOSH  
*Commissioner*

## Commission Members

Heather Watkins  
*Chairperson*

Allegra Stout  
*Vice Chairperson*

John Winske  
*Secretary*

Marc (Moses) Mallard  
*Treasurer*

Zary Amirhosseini

Kimyatta Campbell

Carl Richardson

Kyle Robidoux

### **October Meeting Minutes:**

Due to a lack of a quorum the October meeting minutes will be voted on in January.

### **Commissioner Report: Kristen McCosh**

Allegra Stout (AS) opened the meeting and asked Commissioner Kristen McCosh (KMC) to provide the Commissioner report. KMC opened her report that she will be overseeing all architecture projects until someone is hired to replace Kathryn Quigley. There are currently three open positions and KMC will send out that info when it is available. On the Board there is currently one Board seat open which will be posted in January. State Legislature is pending to increase the number of Board seats from 9 to 13 which KMC testified in favor of.

KMC noted that Mayor Martin Walsh approved an increase in the money developers have to contribute to the inclusionary development fund if they chose not to build affordable units, the amount depending on the neighborhood. If developers chose to build units offsite it now must be within a quarter of a mile from the development to prevent units being built in less desirable areas.

KMC spoke about her involvement as a member of the Disability Housing Task Force which is currently in three subgroups: services, developing new housing, and info dissemination. Collective recommendations will be made to the Mayor in 2016. KMC also explained that the accessible parking program is being reviewed both on a City and State level. On a State level the Attorney General will be releasing recommendations and on a City level KMC will be recommending possible language changes, residential restrictions, and meter law changes. Once KMC compiles her recommendations she will send them to the Board.

### **Architectural Report: Kristen McCosh**

KMC will be sending out information regarding the Andrew Square project and clarified that it is one of three different projects happening in that area. The architecture access calendar will hopefully be up and running in the beginning of 2016 so that Board members can see deadlines for projects and meetings.

### **Old Business**

Jessica Doonan (JD) provided a few updates on old business including noting that a letter was submitted to the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security supporting Senate Bill 1323 and a letter was sent to the Committee on Small Business, Entrepreneurship and Innovation regarding sandwich boards. JD also reported that on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 4pm in the Curley room there will be a City Council working session to identify solutions to ensure equitable transitions of BPS students receiving special education services. The Imagine 2030 Boston initiative is happening citywide and there are comment boxes in multiple locations including Boston Center for Independent Living, Multicultural Independent Living Center, and Greater Boston Legal Services. JD noted that the Boston Public Health Commission is also running the Annual Homeless Census on January 27<sup>th</sup> and is looking for volunteers. Lastly, JD reported a record number of people at the Disability Reframed screening of La Casa Linda in November at the Cambridge Public Library.

### **Old Action Items**

No Old Action Items.

### **New Business**

AS asked for an update on the Uber situation KMC will provide next month. Carl Richardson (CR) noted that Bay State Council for the Blind will be looking into discrimination against individuals with service animals in Boston/Cambridge by Uber, Lyft and Taxis. CR gave a brief update on the MBTA hearing in regards to the RIDE and noted that between 20-15 people testified against the cuts both from senior citizens and people with disabilities. No decision was made and the vote has been postponed. KMC noted that the City is against any cuts being paid. AS noted that the Housing Speak Out sponsored by Boston Center for Independent Living and the Disability Policy Consortium was very successful and focused on the Alternative Housing Voucher Program. JD gave a quick recap of a community meeting held at Back of the Hill Apartments and noted that most of the constituent concerns were related to access to and from the Heath Street subway station.

### **New Action Items**

JD will write a letter regarding cutting premium services for the RIDE and will send it to the Board. JD will also work with AS to work on a letter of support regarding the Alternative Housing Voucher Program.

KMC will circulate the 2016 Board meeting dates will be circulated and will include a combined November and December meeting for a total of 11 instead of 12.

### **Public Input**

No public input

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm.



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KRISTEN MCCOSH  
 Commissioner

## DISABILITY COMMISSION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Boston City Hall, Room 900, 9th Floor

**NEW DATE:** Monday December 14, 2015

5:30-7:30 p.m.

### Commission Members

Heather Watkins  
 Chair

Allegra Stout  
 Vice Chair

John Winske  
 Secretary

Marc (Moses) Mallard  
 Treasurer

Zary Amirhosseini

Kimyatta Campbell

Carl Richardson

Kyle Robidoux

## **REVISED AGENDA**

- Call to Order
- Introductions
- Approval of Minutes
- Chair's Report – *Heather Watkins*
- Commissioner's Report – *Kristen McCosh*
- Architectural Access Update - *Kristen McCosh*
- Old Business
- Old Action Items
- New Business
- New Action Items
- Public Input
- Adjournment

**Next meeting: January 28, 5:30-7:30pm**

## **MEETING ACCOMMODATION NOTICE**

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Please allow at least 2 weeks to arrange for accommodations. Requests for accommodations may be sent to the contact person for the meeting, or may be forwarded to: Kristen McCosh, City of Boston Disability Commissioner and ADA Coordinator, at [kristen.mccosh@cityofboston.gov](mailto:kristen.mccosh@cityofboston.gov) or 617-635-3682 (voice) or 617-635-2541 (TTY).

**To participate in this meeting by phone please dial:**

Conference Phone Number: 1-888-322-7166

Participant Code: 4074173#