

BYLAWS

THE MAYOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR PEOPLE WITH DIVERSE ABILITIES

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Mayor's Advisory Council for People with Diverse Abilities. (MACPDA)

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

The purpose of the MACPD shall be:

1. To increase public awareness and understanding of the challenges faced by people with disabilities.
2. To recommend improvements in public and private facilities which will enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities.
3. To provide information regarding resources related to disabilities.
4. To advocate for the removal of barriers to employment for people with disabilities.
5. To secure the active cooperation of a broad spectrum of the public in order to accomplish the goals, objectives, and functions of the Council.
6. To respond to specific issues brought before the Council.
7. To advise the Mayor and city council on issues related to disabilities.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS

Section I – Officers

Officers shall be elected from the membership at large for the following positions:

1. President; who will preside over meetings in accordance with the Bylaws and appoint chairs for all special and standing committees.
2. Vice President; who shall, in the absence of the Chair or his/her inability to act, preside at all meetings and shall have the powers to function in the same capacity as the Chair in the even the aforementioned circumstances exist.
3. Secretary/Treasurer; who shall insure:
 - A. The board operates within the constraints of the Bylaws and the budget approved by the MACPD.
 - B. Records the minutes of the MACPD meeting.

Section II- Term of Office

Officers shall take office immediately following their election and shall hold office for one year or until their successors are elected and assume office. They are subject to re-election if it is the will of the Board of Directors.

Section III- Duties of the Board of the Council

1. To organize and establish rules, procedures and Bylaws.
2. To maintain a Mission Statement that accurately reflects the purpose, aims and composition of the MACPD.
3. To develop the purpose of the MACPD.
- 4.. To present a budget annually to the Tuscaloosa City council and to exercise fiduciary responsibility of the budget.
5. To accept questions from the Mayor, general public, and other professional staff about disability issues.
6. To take official actions on matters pertaining to the MACPD business.
7. To appoint various committees and establish the authority and powers of these committees.
8. To enter into contracts on behalf of the MACPD.

Section IV—Action Without Meeting

Any action required or permitted to be taken by the council at a meeting may be taken without a meeting via written or verbal consent of the officers.

Section V—Fiduciary Responsibility

The MACPD shall exercise complete fiduciary responsibility in all matters.

1. All fiscal actions will be governed by the policies of the City of Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Budgeting, receipt of income and disbursements will be performed under the auspices of the City of Tuscaloosa, using the City's normal accounting procedures.
2. No one shall execute a loan or incur any debt in the name of, or on behalf of the MACPD without express authorization of the Board of Directors.
3. The president will appoint a sub-committee to develop a budget for the forthcoming year.

Article IV—Council Membership

The President shall work with the Mayor to invite members to serve on the council. Members may join the council at any time and will have open ended terms.

Article V –Procedure for Meeting

Section I—Meetings:

1. The president will nominate a slate of officers at the October MACPD meeting.
2. Monthly and other special meetings of the MACPD shall be at the direction of the President.

Section II—Open Meetings:

All meetings at which official action is taken shall be open to the general public.

Section III—Quorum:

A quorum shall consist of one officer and five council members. No action shall take place without a quorum.

Section IV- Motions:

Motions shall be re-stated by the president before a vote is taken. The name of the person making the motion and the name of the person sending the motion shall be recorded in the minutes along with the motion.

Section V—Voting:

Voting shall be voice vote: however, upon the request of at least one voting member, voting shall be by written ballot. In the event of a tie vote, the motion before the MACPD shall fail.

Section VI- Procedural Questions:

The President shall rule on all procedural questions, subject to reversal by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the council.

Section VII—Proxy Votes:

Proxy votes shall be allowed when delivered in writing to the President prior to the meeting. The President shall announce any such proxies at the beginning of the meeting. Council members may assign their proxies to any other member in attendance.

Article VI – Standing Rules of Procedure

The MACPD may adopt, from time to time, standing rules of procedure. These rules may be modified or expanded as necessary to conduct the business of the MACPD.

These Bylaws were written in 1999, and were reviewed, edited, and re-approved in May, 2007. On September 20, 2007 the Bylaws were amended. The name of the Council was changed to Mayor’s Advisory Council for People with Diverse Abilities.