

September 29, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: (UNKNOWN, names listed are the ones I know, but it's an incomplete list)

Katie Herron, David Carter, Lynne Argent, Susan Russ, Rachel Roby, Barbara Salisbury, Barbara McKinney, Vicki Pappas, Lucy Schaich, Nick Philbeck, Byron Smith, David Smith, John Brady, Dr. Lisa Connolly...(etc.)

Minutes: No corrections to August minutes.

Financial Report: Lucy Schaich reported a current balance of \$1,065.62. Regarding the October Awards Ceremony, the speculated totals were \$3,306 outgoing and \$3,350 incoming. Anticipated donations that had not yet been received included those from the Human Rights Commission, the IIDC, and others.

Media: A Herald-Times letter to the editor was mentioned because the person who wrote the letter asked why people with disabilities have to pay for parking. The letter is from September 12, 2014 entitled "Why Charge Disabled?"

The CCA was consulted in order to compile a list of resources published on September 26, 2014 in the Herald-Times Hotline response, which included a list of resources for people in need of wheelchairs for short-term use. Vicki Pappas reported that the Herald-Times has been escalating their use of the CCA as a resource for disability/accessibility-related questions.

Multiple CCA members who attended the Lotus Festival reported that it was largely accessible and that the staff was helpful. The only issues they experienced were related to lengthy uphill/downhill paths.

Guest Presentation: There was no guest presentation this month.

Reports from the City: Barbara McKinney reported that the city has limited ability to regulate taxi cab companies. She said that Patty Mulvihill is the City Attorney who is dealing with taxi cab issues. There is currently no ordinance about chair lifts.

Barbara Salisbury discussed what she has read about Uber, which is a ridesharing service with vehicles for hire. She has read mostly positive thoughts about the service and its iphone app, especially its utility for people who are blind. The app provides a lot of information that a lot of blind people like, such as the car model, license plate number, driver's name, etc. Barbara said that Uber is marketed as being more quickly accessible than taxi cabs, and that people have found drivers to be more engaging.

She also reported that she will be putting out questions about setting up payment accounts for Uber. Her understanding is that riders do not pay with cash, but instead use a smartphone app through which they must give reviews of the service they've received. Barbara is exploring whether using Paypal through this app may be a possibility.

New Concerns: David Smith reported that he wants to bring the videos he's taken to the Council, but he needs help editing them and making written logs related to them. He asked if anyone present would be interested in assisting him or if anyone knew of someone who'd be able to help. It bothers him that he has to take risks that don't have to be, and would like to use his videos to help make people aware of issues related to inaccessibility and to identify areas in Bloomington in which accessibility could be improved. Barbara Salisbury suggested that contacting Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM) might be an option, because they are already looking into the accessibility of bus stops in the area.

David Carter reported that curb cuts near the Mathers Museum are problematic and need to be fixed. Lucy Schaich noted the issue and said that she would probably discuss it with Barbara McKinney to see what can be done to address the problems.

Report from Chair: 2015 Elections were held. Results of the elections are as follows:

Chair: Katie Herron

Accessibility Committee Chair: Vicki Pappas

Activities & Events Committee Chair: Susan Russ

Additional Executive Committee Members: David Carter, Rachel Roby

City of Bloomington Council for Community Accessibility

City Hall • 401 N. Morton St., Suite 260, Bloomington, IN 47404 • www.bloomington.in.gov/cca
hrs: 8am-5pm MON-FRI • ph. 812-349-3471 • fax 812-349-3483 • brennerc@bloomington.in.gov

Secretary: Linda Crawford

Committee Reports:

A. Accessibility Committee: Vicki Pappas reported that the Committee had a goal of at least five new decals awarded by the October Awards Ceremony. Nine decals have already been awarded in 2014.

The next Accessibility Committee meeting will be on October 20th at 3pm, instead of what would have been the typical date (October 27th).

B. Activities and Events Committee: Susan Russ reported that details for the October Awards Ceremony on October 27 had been finalized. Kathie Snow will be the speaker, and her topic will be, "Accessibility: Creating Opportunity for All." The following day (October 28), Kathie will present a workshop at Ivy Tech entitled "Disability is Natural." The ceremony will be held at the Fountain Square Mall Ballroom, which was made available to the CCA for free courtesy of an in-kind donation from CFC. Bloomingfoods will be the caterer, at a price similar to the cost of catering the awards in 2013, about \$717.

David Smith encouraged the Activities & Events Committee to make sure some low-sodium options are made available and clearly marked. Other members of the Council acknowledged the need to make sure the foods provided are clearly marked with information that may be necessary for people with specific dietary needs.

The Boy Scout Troop #136 will again be assisting attendees of the awards ceremony (as they did in 2013).

Craig Brenner will provide music.

The event will start at 6:30pm with music and food, Kathie Snow will begin speaking around 7pm, and the entire program will conclude around 8:45pm.

Dr. Lisa Connolly suggested that E2 taxi might be an option for transporting Kathie to and from the workshop at Ivy Tech, though Katie Herron, Lucy Schaich, and Susan Russ volunteered to provide transportation for her.

Lucy reported that she has sent Kathie a tentative itinerary, though she still has to check on Kathie's interest in joining members of the CCA for lunch or dinner on Tuesday, October 28, and find out if it might be possible to get a late hotel check-out from the Hilton Garden Inn for Kathie.

Susan announced that the deadline for award nominations is Friday, October 10, and that the meeting to decide award winners will be on Wednesday, October 15 at noon. After this, the awards will need to be made. Lucy said that the CCA has always gotten the awards from the same place, and that would be the case again this year.

Lucy reported that postcards announcing the awards ceremony will be available Wed. October 1, and that these would be sent to the CCA listserv via email. These email invites may be sent by the recipients to others they wish to invite. Stacks of these postcards will be available to those who want to distribute them.

Susan implored people to submit nominations for the awards and to encourage others to do likewise.

Lucy Schaich reported that Mayor Mark Kruzan has confirmed his attendance for the awards ceremony.

Lucy reported that a media release would be forthcoming, and that there was already one posted on the CCA website.

Lucy also reported that an entire floor of the Fountain Square parking garage will be reserved for awards ceremony attendees.

Susan reported that the workshop with Kathie Snow on October 28 will be in Ivy Tech room C126, which will hold 40 people, but tables can be removed to include at least 50 people. The workshop will be from 9am-12pm, with a break in the middle for refreshments.

Byron Smith suggested that schools should let substitute teachers know about the workshop.

Dr. Lisa Connolly reported that she will contact the IU School of Social Work about the workshop.

Bagels for the workshop will be donated by Bloomington Bagel Company. Juice and coffee may be needed.

"Thank you" letters need to be sent to donors/supporters. These letters will be on a table prior to the awards ceremony so that members of the CCA can sign them.

Reports from Affiliate Organizations and Programs/Announcements: Barbara Salisbury reported that, on Thursday October 30, an event will be held to engage community interest in the volunteer driver program. She said that this event is designed to start a conversation to see if the community is interested in such a program. The speaker is someone who has been involved in an equivalent program in Indianapolis since the 1970s. This event will be held at the new transit center in the Community Room. There will be free parking at the corner of 3rd and Walnut Streets. Lucy will be sending fliers about the event in a newsletter. Those who want to attend should contact Barbara.

David Smith reported that he views himself as an "affiliate member" of Darla House Mission Church, and that the church wants to welcome people of all abilities to their church community.

Respectfully submitted,
Nick Philbeck
Stand-in Secretary