

January 26, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: David Carter, Lynne Argent, Susan Russ, Rachel Roby, Lucy Schaich, Nick Philbeck, Vicki Pappas, Katie Herron, Barbara Salisbury, Barbara McKinney, Iris Kiesling, Beverly Calender-Anderson, David Smith and Linda Crawford.

Beverly Calender-Anderson, new director of the Community and Family Resources Department was introduced to the CCA. Beverly thanked the Council for their work. Council members were invited to send messages either directly to her or via Lucy. Beverly stated that the position of liaison between the department and CCA will be filled within the next couple months.

Minutes and Financial Report: November minutes were accepted as printed. Lucy said we are still waiting for Bell Trace to submit their bill for the 2013 Awards Ceremony. Fund raising efforts for the 2014 Awards Ceremony were \$107.78 below actual cost. Balance is \$5,879.46.

It was noted that in the financial report presented by Lucy that the 312 account is designated for CCA and the 101 account is the money donated by the department for the Awards Ceremony.

Media: Craig Brenner received the Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy award.

Guest Presentation: There was no guest presentation this month.

Reports from the City: The City Hall display window has been reserved for CCA use for the full month of April 2015. Lucy reminded the Council that April is also Autism month and the Council might wish to communicate with Nancy Woolery concerning the display. The Commission on Aging in will create its Creative Aging calendar for May 2015, CCA might wish to forward any appropriate events to include on their calendar.

All of the CFR Dept. commissions are looking at their fundraising lists to examine if funds are being sought from the same entities.

The Council's Facebook page welcomes postings from members and had several new likes this past week. This might be a good place to keep people informed about the upcoming 25th anniversary of the ADA. Also, anniversary updates can be sent through the email list.

New Concerns: Rachel reported that Beth Shalom wishes to purchase a lift instead of installing a ramp to provide accessibility. Vicki suggested bringing this concern to the Accessibility Committee. The congregation also would like a Braille book that is to be used during religious services.

David reported that while he was at IMA on Landmark an alarm went off on the second floor. As the elevator was not to be used, there didn't seem to be a well-established evacuation plan for assisting people with accessibility problems. It was suggested that perhaps Jim Comerford from the County's Emergency Management office be contacted. David has offered to write a letter to IMA inquiring about the evacuation plan and training for employees of IMA.

Lucy reminded CCA members that the "Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities" information is on the City of Bloomington's web page.

Report from Chair: Katie presented a request for funds of \$200 from Craig Brenner for the Bloomington Blues and Boogie Woogie Piano Festival to be held in August 2015. One of the performers, Liz Pennock, who has a disability, participated in the ADA celebration five years ago. Through her participation, maybe some more attention to the ADA anniversary can be generated. The Executive Committee had approved this request and Lucy will submit the request through a purchase order.

Committee Reports:

- A. Accessibility Committee: Katie reported that the CCA and the Optometry School have reached an agreement in reference to accessibility infractions. Minor changes will be made by the Optometry School so that it is in compliance. Barbara will send letters to The Tap and Beth Shalom concerning their accessibility problems.

It was suggested that if there is a minor concern with a business not meeting accessibility requirements, the Accessibility Committee will send a letter outlining the problem areas.

As to the accessibility of Taste of India, there are too many deterrents to accessibility.

The website provides an alphabetical listing of all accessible businesses, but it is cumbersome to use because of its length. Lucy suggested that the list be grouped by type of business—restaurant, professional business, etc. CCA members were asked to review the Accessible Bloomington page and provide feedback to Lucy.

Vicki's committee made a procedural decision: If a facility has just a single restroom with no Braille signage, it will be declared accessible. However, two separate restrooms without Braille signage will not be considered accessible.

There is also a need for additional surveyors. Lucy will send out a request for more volunteers to survey. The committee's goal is to have identified ten additional accessible businesses by April. (In 2014, fourteen businesses were identified as accessible.) Within the Restaurant Association, 4 out of 49 independent restaurants that were surveyed are accessible. It was suggested to look further into the Bloomington Independent Restaurant Association to increase the number of accessible restaurants.

- B. Activities and Events Committee: Susan announced that the Governor's Council for People with Disabilities Award will be given to Lucy so that it may be displayed. She announced that March is designated as Disability Awareness Month, April is Accessibility and Autism Awareness Month, July is the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the ADA and October is the Annual Awards Ceremony. Because this year is the 25th anniversary of the ADA, it was suggested that the March and April Awareness months also emphasize the ADA. Suggestions for activities for those months included newspaper articles and interviews, with suggesting ideas to the newspaper for features to be included in April, July and October. A suggestion was made to check with the Great Lakes ADA to see if there is a logo ready for use. Other suggestions include: Distribution of Governor's Council materials to businesses, display in City Hall in April that utilizes graphic assistance, use of the 25th anniversary logo on everything that is sent out by CCA during the year, classroom visits, panel discussion focusing on employment (perhaps partnering with CCA in October), library display, history display with Matt Norris' assistance, and a calendar of events. Nick volunteered to contact the MCPL concerning a display.

A question about funding the July ADA Anniversary Celebration was raised. There is a \$1000 Humanities grant, with a February 2nd deadline for application; Susan will see to getting this completed. Brainstorming ideas for the celebration included an event held on the Square or B-Line trail, a party, additional training.

Reports from Affiliate Organizations and Programs/Announcements

David Smith, who is part of Stonebelt Advocacy, met with Todd Young. David shared information about the CCA with Mr. Young who was receptive to the work of the CCA. David also mentioned that he would be a driver for one leg of the journey of the ADA bus as it comes through Bloomington on its trip around the country.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Linda Crawford
Secretary