

**Council for Community Accessibility
Meeting Notes for August 28, 2023, 4:00-5:30 p.m.**

The hybrid meeting was opened at 4:00 p.m. by chairperson Lesley Davis.

Members: Lesley Davis, Chris Jackson, Karin Willison, Marche Daughtery, Casey Guarino, John Brady, Danielle Perdue, Susan Seizer, Martin Homan, Nick Philbeck, Kristen King, Katie Anderson, Zoe Waters, Eric Ford, and Linda Crawford

Guest Presenter: Beth Rosenbarger, Assistant Director, COB Planning and Transportation Dept.

City Staff: Michael Shermis, Karina Pazos, Planning and Transportation Department

Guest Presentation: Beth Rosenbarger, Assistant Director, Planning and Transportation Department, provided a power point presentation on the city’s study of improving street design in the city. Beth’s presentation included concise and well-illustrated examples of the concepts of walkability, safe walks, and street design. Members of the Council requested that Beth return to a future CCA monthly meeting and provide updates and additional information of the City’s study.

Minutes: June minutes were accepted as printed and distributed.

Financial Report: Michael reported a balance of \$180.21; additional donations for the ‘Gather Round the Table October event are anticipated.

Partner Organizations Awareness and Outreach: Kristen, Stone Belt, announced awards would be presented on September 11th and RSVP’s are required.

New Accessibility Concerns from Members/Visitors: The “walk” crossing lights at Rogers and 2nd Street are not working, making crossing 2nd Street dangerous or impossible.

Construction on 1st Street is blocking accessibility and the sidewalk toward Centerstone is missing a curb cut.

A question was raised about travel through an alley where there are no sidewalks and grease on the ground from restaurants trash bins—is this a Public Works issue or Monroe County Health Department? Michael will explore.

The bus stop at High & Marilyn (Route 4) is located such that it makes accessibility difficult and dangerous. Michael will talk to look at it with Susan and talk to Engineering and Bloomington Transit about the situation.

According to a federal requirement, beginning in 2024, Area 10 will not be able to operate their Rural Transit rural routes that provide rural transportation for riders into the city limits. This presents a hardship for those riders who depend upon Rural Transit to transport them into the city. Bloomington Transit is hoping to make up the difference with alternative transportation options.

Casey agreed to serve as the CCA member on the steering committee of Safe Streets and Roadways for All. The steering committee will develop a community transportation project using federal funds.

Report from the City: Michael's report will be integrated within the committee reports.

Committee Reports:

Accessibility Committee: Chris reported that no new surveys have been completed and the committee is seeking additional surveyors. Susan volunteered to go through surveyor training.

Transportation and Mobility Committee: The committee is continuing work on the Housing and Transportation survey, looking to arrive at an estimate of completing the project, as well as funding sources.

Activities and Events Committee: The ADA Celebration attracted over 500 participants/interested people. The committee is looking for suggestions as to how this event might be improved. It was suggested that the CCA itself provide an activity to increase awareness of the Council.

'Gather Round the Table (October 30, 5:30-8:30 at Switchyard Park) will feature a panel comprised of artists from different areas of the arts. Casey is chairing the event and say we will be sending out a Save the Date/Register e-mail soon.

MALL: A class of 12-14 students from the O'Neil School met with the MALL committee and suggested ways to grow their service and how to secure additional funds. They also suggested registering their service as a 501c organization.

The non-powered mobility aids will be able to be checked out from the Library of Things at the Monroe County Public Library around mid-September. Karin is continuing to store the larger mobility items. Karin also said that transport wheelchairs are especially needed now.

Public Comment: CAPS representatives Nejla Routsong and Jason Michaler provided a description of their commission (Community Advisory on Public Safety) that works with the City to improve public safety for the most marginalized and most susceptible population that is exposed to dangerous situations. Michael will email CCA members with the CAPS report.

Report from the Chair: No report given.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Crawford, Secretary