

Council for Community Accessibility

Meeting Minutes for April 27, 2026

The hybrid meeting was opened at 4:00 by Lesley Davis, followed by introductions of those who were present at the meeting.

Members Present:

- Lesley Davis, Chris Jackson, Haoxi Wang, Stephanie Smith, Rivkah Roby, Karin Willison, Max Seader, John Brady, John (no last name given), Bryan Fyalkowski, Mike Stribling, Casey Guarino, Dorothy Lenard, Hannah Lencheck, Eddie Barrueta, Susan Seizer, and Linda Crawford.
- City Staff: Michael Shermis, Annabelle Vosmeier

Minutes

March 2026 minutes were accepted as printed and distributed.

Financial Report

There is a balance of \$1,115.16.

Partner Organizations Awareness and Outreach

- Mike reported that IU will be delayed a year in being in compliance with federal legislation regarding digital accessibility.
- Belt Out Loud, a benefit for Stone Belt that will be used for providing services to their clients, will be held at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater at the end of May. The concert will feature Cody Ikerd and the Sidewinders.
- Bryan reported that there is to be a public hearing hosted by Bloomington Transit that will provide information about changes in bus service, especially with the City's westside routes of 3 and 13. Service to Ivy Tech will be added to route 3. There will be more service on Saturdays, with the rest of the week remaining the same.
- Stephanie says that IU's Office of Community Engagement continues to work at engaging citizens in established partnerships.

Report from the City

Michael explained that the ADA Transition Plan is updated and presented to the public for public comment every two years, as required by the ADA. The agreed upon set of measurements is used to note improvements in the various areas.

The recent plan notes the biggest change is in people's attitudes: The role of the CCA in the community is noted, including its involvement as being used as a model for other cities. Transportation will review the plan which will be followed by a public release to

secure comments from the public before it is sent to the City Council to be voted upon. It was also noted that every public document must be accessible. Some questions were asked about the drafted ADA Transitional plan:

- Lesley asked that if the parking lot at Washington and 4th Street (behind the Uptown and BCT) uses a non-accessible payment machine is this okay even if there are other ways to pay.
- Dorothy suggested that in the section on Vision and Objectivity, the words “places of public accommodations, housing and service,” do not convey the inclusion of total accommodations. She suggested adding a description in parentheses that clarifies the meaning.
- The disability awareness training was first offered to the City departments, but has been presented to a few organizations. The CCA is happy to offer the training to organizations outside the City departments.

Michael says the annual report is done but needs a final review; it will go out next month.

New Accessibility Concerns from Members/Visitors

Michael provided a comprehensive report of the work done by Max Seader. Max has created a spreadsheet of data, including photos, of accessibility issues throughout the City, but primarily in the Crestmont area. Their work includes a map labeling those accessibility issues which has been forwarded to the Engineering, Parks and Rec and Planning departments. The identified concerns need to be addressed by the Public Works department with an eye to the future as well as current concerns. A walk/wheelchair tour will be scheduled within the next couple of weeks.

Following Max’s report, the matter of accessibility parking without an access aisle was discussed. Either there are no access aisles at certain establishments or you have to know that they are there and look for them. There are no access aisles for parallel parking. However, for parallel parking accessible spaces, there must be an accessible path and the accessible parking space would be at the end of the block. Still, access would be adjacent to traffic.

The number of accessible parking spaces needed is based on a chart and the parking area must have at least one accessible aisle. Medical practices are to have more such spaces. The parking areas at the McIntyre offices and Landmark IMA will be inspected to determine adequate accessible parking.

Committee/Partner Reports

Accessibility Committee

Chris reported that all 28 Monroe County polling locations have been surveyed for accessibility and should have an accessibility report on hand. He asked that anyone voting on Election Day to share any issues or barriers they encountered. He also thanked Michael Bird for his dedicated surveying work. The surveying of polling places have been his last as he is preparing to move to Chicago at the end of the week. A press release will go out to the public sharing information about our joint effort with Monroe County regarding the polling locations.

Transportation, Mobility, and Housing Committee

The committee will be meeting within the next two weeks.

Activities and Events Committee

Planning continues for the Breaking Down the Barriers event which will be held on May 26 at the Southwest Library from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Current plans include sending letters to CCA partners, talking to their clients and asking them to send three questions that have to do with assumptions people make about disabilities. Several suggestions were made by those attending the meeting to generate some examples of questions and scenarios to use for the event. It was emphasized that CCA's partner organizations should recruit people to attend the event and DSI and Stone Belt as well as Rivkah will encourage attendance from Centerstone clients. Michael will connect with other individuals as well as notify Katie Herron of the event. The library can post the flyer and send information to MALL clients. Mike said he can post information in his office at IU.

CCA members are needed to facilitate small group discussion which will last about 15-20 minutes. Other features of the event include refreshments and whole group wrap up of small group discussions.

MALL

MALL is still looking for space to rent. There is a possibility of renting a larger room at the church where they are presently. Current needs include manual wheelchairs—there are plenty of power wheelchairs available.

Report from the Chair

Lesley announced that the ADA anniversary celebration will be held on August 1st from 9:00 to noon at City Hall.

She encouraged CCA members to frequent places (Wonder Lab, Mother Hubbard's Cupboard, MCPL, Farm restaurant, the Inkwell to name a few) that are mentioned in the

AccessAble guide. The guide provides extremely detailed information about each of the 20 establishments included in the guide. Information concerning the guide will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Crawford, Secretary