

**Council for Community Accessibility
Meeting Notes for May 20, 2019, 4:00-5:30 p.m.**

David Carter opened the meeting at 4:01 p.m.

Members: Susan Russ, Barbara McKInney, Barbara Salisbury, Iris Kiesling, Cori Mitchell, John Brady, David Carter, Chris Cutshall, Connie Neal, Chris Jackson, Cindy Fleetwood, Chris Baskins and Linda Crawford.

Guests: Dayna Thompson, IU Alzheimer's Resource Service

Staff: Michael Shermis and Karina Suarez (intern)

Minutes: March minutes were accepted as printed.

Financial Report: There is a balance of \$2340.61 in the CCA account following the payment of all expenses incurred from the April event.

Media: Lyft has been noted as providing services for people with disabilities.

Report from the city: As Michael will be on vacation during the week in June that the CCA meets, he will not be at the next CCA meeting.

Michael will be sending publicity out on an upcoming event—Deborah Myerson, from south Central Indiana Housing Opportunities, will speak about tenant/landowner relationships and training in disability awareness in areas of discrimination and modifications.

Michael shared a power point presentation that he will deliver as a message to increase awareness of the CCA.

New Accessibility Concerns: Michael has communicated with Trent Deckard about the Curry Pike accessibility problem, who earlier had talked with the owner/administrator of the State building (containing DMV, Work One, Voc Rehab, and others) at the Curry Pike location. Trent will attempt to spearhead the effort to get the county involved in a resolution to the accessibility issues with Iris helping to secure a county commissioner to get involved as well.

Guest Presentation: Dayna Thompson from the IU Alzheimer's Resource Service, based at the Bloomington hospital, explained that the center serves eleven counties. Statistics show that 110,000 Hoosiers aged 65 years or older, with 1,759 of those living in Monroe County, have some kind of dementia.

Dayna explained that dementia causes changes in memory, language, thought, behavior, mood, and personality. The umbrella term of dementia covers over one hundred diseases. Dementia, she said, is progressive with a global loss affecting all areas of the brain. Drastic changes affect how lighting interferes with processing images; vision is affected as it tends to become binocular. Perception of objects and patterns are distorted making ordinary tasks difficult. These changes in vision affect how an individual interprets signage and finds his or

her way to specific places. Often the individual responds to these difficulties by withdrawing from social activities. It was also noted that noise levels become less tolerable with 76% of those affected with dementia reporting that they would visit more public places if the noise level was lower.

Because of accessibility and awareness, community support and a positive, accepting environment, Bloomington has been designated a dementia-friendly city for the past three years. Dayna mentioned that dementia-friendly locations are listed on the resource's website.

Committee Reports:

- A. Accessibility Committee: Chris reported that the eighteen MCCSC schools which were surveyed earlier all had some accessibility problems. The most common problems were height of the hand towel dispensers and parking. It did not appear that it would require much work for some of these schools to be in compliance with ADA standards. The next major project is for sports and performance sites at IU to be surveyed for accessibility, along with the IU Art Museum in the fall when its renovation is complete.
- B. Activities and Events Committee: Susan reported that 48 people participated in the April event of Breaking down the Barriers, with 30 of those people staying for dinner. The 42 businesses recognized for meeting accessibility standards responded enthusiastically and appreciatively for being recognized. Other comments included that the event was well organized and fun, food was great, and it was good to have a community goal that included younger people.

The July celebration of ADA's 29th year will be held on July 27th on the B-line trail at the Farmer's Market. The committee will meet on May 29th at 2:00 pm in the Hooker Room to select organizations to do activities at the event.

- C. Transportation and Mobility Committee: Barbara reviewed the format for the Ride-Hailing Workshop, (May 23rd to be held at the Convention Center). The by-invitation luncheon for transportation providers, policy planners, and other interested persons will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 pm. Luncheon speaker Judy Shanley will address creative coordination for better mobility, as well as a discussion on what is being done currently elsewhere in the country. About 40 participants are expected for this event which is sponsored by a grant from the Governor's Council.

Report from the Chair: There was no report from the chair.

Reports from Affiliate Organizations and Programs/Announcements: There were no additional announcements or reports.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Crawford