

Meeting Notes for February 29, 2016, 4:00-5:30

Katie Herron called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Members: Vicki Pappas, David Carter, Catherine Anders, Katie Herron, Nick Philbeck, Karin Willison, Dorothy Lenard, Rebecca Sawyer (for Barbara Salisbury), Rhonda Moore and Linda Crawford
Staff: Michael Shermis
Guests: Jeff Heerdink, Neil Kopperan

Minutes: Minutes were accepted as printed.

Staff Report: The event *Navigating the Caregiver Challenge Part II* will focus on those who do the caregiving. Planners of the event are looking for panelists who have experienced caregiving firsthand to participate in a discussion. Katie suggested that the names of interested persons be forwarded to Michael.

On Tuesday, March 1st, the City will host a Community Symposium on the new high speed networks. The event will be held in Council Chambers.

There was much discussion of data pertaining to AccessAbility Decal recipients and the Directory of Resources and Services for People with Disabilities that is found on the City's website. Pros and cons of various ways of presenting the data were examined by Council members. It was decided to have Michael look into various ways of safely displaying this information so that it can be used for different purposes. These two categories on the website will be discussed further at the March meeting; Council members are encouraged to bring suggestions.

Financial Report: There was no report presented.

Media: There was no media presented.

Guest Presentation: Neil Kopperan and Jeff Heerdink, from the city Department of Traffic and Transportation, explained that their work is primarily concerned with the engineering side of the department—every new development that is sent to the Planning Department is also forwarded to their department for review.

Currently the department is preparing for work lasting about 2-3 weeks to begin around April 1st, with installing or repairing ramps along Clarizz Blvd. This includes work at the intersection of Clarizz and East 3rd Street, along with ramps located near Bloomingfoods, K-Mart and further west on Clarizz. A total of 21 ramps are being repaired or installed, not just curb cuts. There will also be work on ramps and curb cuts on Kinser Pike at 17th Street.

Federal funding will allow work on traffic signals. All signals within the city will be retimed so that the signals allow for crossing the street at a rate of 3 ½ feet/second. Not all signal timers offer a countdown, but the accessible push buttons will provide more information to facilitate street crossing. Jeff and Neil pointed

out that some signals have a preset amount of time built into the signal to facilitate traffic flow whereas others are responsive to pedestrians pushing the button for a walk sign to appear.

In the downtown area, the department is replacing the curb ramps, which are not at signal intersections, to meet standards. The CCA could provide input into the prioritizing of work in this area. It was also suggested that the Department of Traffic and Transportation could visit the CCA at different times during the year to provide updates on their work. CCA members were encouraged to pass along questions to the department.

Accessibility of bus stops is determined by the location of the bus stop. Only those bus stops that are along an existing sidewalk are serviced by the City department. Also noted, sidewalks that are difficult to navigate are the responsibility of the property owner, but the department needs to be notified nonetheless.

New Accessibility Concerns: No new concerns were presented to the Council.

Report from Chair:

Upcoming presentations include:

March—Disabilities Outreach Coordinator for deaf and hearing impaired (Hands and Voices)

May—possibly a representative from a City department

Katie has sent a letter to the mayor inviting him to attend a CCA meeting, but a specific date has not yet been set.

Currently there are about 100-120 people included in the special needs registry. Problems arise when there is no land line listed on the form and extra information is required to identify the special need. Discussion on changes in the enrollment form and the brochure will be continued at the March meeting.

Notification of the upcoming Democracy Event (March 2nd at 4:00 pm) was sent to members.

Committee Reports:

A. Accessibility Committee: Vicki announced that the CCA has received a grant of \$3,000 to be used for training restaurant owners and managers. Michael and Vicki will meet with members of BIRA to work out the specifics of the training, which would be held after April, possibly mid-May.

The Accessibility Committee is exploring the possibility of redesigning the Decal, which would probably involve some expense.

The YMCA has requested staff training on disabilities and awareness of disabilities. Vicki is thinking that this might be best done by means of a presentation by a panel of people with different disabilities.

B. Activities and Events Committee: This year's events for Disability and Accessibility Awareness months will be similar to last year's. The *Herald Times* will once again include articles as long as the articles are of benefit to the community.

Susan and Nick are continuing to look for additional members for the Activities and Events Committee.

Vicki is preparing the event calendar for March and April. She will continue to provide updates to the calendar as events are scheduled.

Reports from Affiliate Organizations and Programs/Announcements:

The IU Cinema has asked for suggestions of movie titles to show during March and April. The possibility of securing a grant for showing films related to these events will be considered for next year.

Dorothy Lenard announced that she is available for employment as a disabilities coordinator.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Crawford, Secretary