

Meeting Notes for April 25, 2016, 4:00-5:30

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

Members: Vicki Pappas, David Carter, Katie Herron, Nick Philbeck, Dorothy Lenard, Becky Tucker-Sawyer, Barbara Salisbury, Susan Russ, Dr. Lisa Connolly, David Smith, Kemberly Dailey Johnson, Chris Jackson, and Linda Crawford

Staff: Michael Shermis

Guests: Amy Mobley, Jennette Shere-Thomas

Minutes: Minutes from the March should have indicated that Susan Russ was present at the March meeting.

Media: Dr. Connolly reported that she had received twenty thank you notes from the Clear Creek elementary class that learned about disability etiquette from Dr. Connolly and Ivy Tech students. Dr. Connolly noted that the students received the activity books (provided by the Governor's Council) in advance and they were used as a reading assignment. Following this presentation, Dr. Connolly was asked to make a second presentation for another fifth grade class. In May, Dr. Connolly will be returning to the fifth grade class to talk about the brain and disabilities. Dr. Connolly's group will work with a first grade class in Grandview later this week.

Staff Report: The event Navigating the Caregiver Challenge Part II will be held on May 7th from 9:00 to 12:30 in the Council Chambers in City Hall.

Financial Report: There is a balance of \$5743.50 after making a contribution of \$200 to the second annual Bloomington Boogie Festival, sponsored in part by the CCA.

Guest Presentation: Amy Mobley, assistant director of Disability Support Services at Ivy Tech discussed how students with disabilities at Ivy Tech secure services. She explained that there are some students who do not know if they have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and thus learn that they must become their own advocates. Amy provided examples of what are considered disabilities, including the need to educate others about invisible disabilities. Ivy Tech requires official medical documentation for a student to secure disability services. Accommodations are made on an individual basis, which requires updating each semester. A signed agreement between the Disability Support Services and the student includes a clause stating that information provided by the student is correct.

Statistically there should be about 600 students (10% of the student population) with noted disabilities, but only 140 students have sought services from the Disability Services Office. This low number often results from students not wishing to be classified as students needing special services. Amy has used classroom visits to encourage students who might benefit from her office's services to seek assistance.

Students with temporary disabilities are also assisted by the Disability Services Office.

New Accessibility Concerns: Jeannette Shere-Thomas shared her concern about the lack of satisfactory response to the treatment of mold which occurred when pipes in her apartment complex burst and flooding resulted. Jeannette has reported this situation to a city department. Council members wondered if the health department should be contacted and if the city department Jeannette contacted could conduct another inspection. Michael assured Jeannette he would check with the person Jeannette contacted and then contact her.

Kemberly brought attention to a parking concern. An individual has recently moved to an apartment complex located within a restricted parking zone near IU. This individual requires 24-hour support which means that there are sometimes 2 or 3 support people requiring parking spaces. A one-year parking permit is required for each vehicle at a cost of \$25/vehicle. Kemberly has talked with the city parking department, but has been told there are no other options.

Katie suggested writing to the Parking Department and sending a copy to the mayor as well as looking for funds to cover this expense. Vicki commented that there most likely are other people in this same situation, and that they are finding it difficult to “age in place.”

Michael will talk to the Human Rights Commission to see if there might be a solution.

Report from Chair:

Upcoming presentations include:

May 23rd—Matt Pierce, co-author of legislation concerning use of an identification bracelet for police to identify persons with disabilities. (Michael will send summary of proposed legislation to CCA members to review before May meeting.)

June—Stacy Algeier, Indiana Hands and Voices

Katie asked members to think about potential speakers for the July, August and September meetings and to send suggestions to her.

Michael is going to check with the mayor about visiting the Council at an upcoming meeting.

The newly revised Special Needs Registration form was distributed to members to peruse. It was suggested that the special need “Autism” be changed to “Autism Spectrum” and “Seizure Disorder” be changed to “Seizure.” Also, a question was raised about the formal language, perhaps sounding too “legalese,” that is used in the conditions portion of the document. It was decided that the language needs to remain as printed.

After changes have been completed, it will be printed as a brochure.

Promoting the Special Needs Registry will be addressed in a month or two when the new brochure is ready. Katie asked Council members to think about organizations that might be approached for help in getting the brochure to people who wish to be registered.

Committee Reports:

A. Accessibility Committee: Vicki announced that finding a period of time convenient for restaurant owners to attend the upcoming Restaurant Training is going to be a challenge. It appears that 2:00 to 4:00 might be a workable time frame.

The Accessibility Committee hoped to be able to award 10 decals by May, but only 4 businesses qualify at this time. The committee has moved the goal of 10 decals to July. Presently the committee is working with seventeen businesses that need to comply with accessibility standards; four of which are currently involved in legal deliberation.

The Accessibility Committee would like to have former recipients of the decals to receive the newly designed decal. Vicki asked if perhaps this might be included as part of the ADA's 26th celebration. Suggestions include asking each Council member to deliver 5 new decals to the previous recipients, or awarding the decals by the mayor in a special ceremony.

The next committee meeting will be held on June 6th at 2:30 pm.

David thanked Vicki for her outstanding work with the committee. David mentioned that because sometimes there is a reluctance to admit the surveyor to the building, a letter of introduction might be presented first. There was a question about whether there is a legal way to complete the survey or whether there was a need to survey a business. A survey must be done if there is something out of compliance.

- B. Activities and Events Committee: Susan reported that there are three more school presentations to be completed, which will bring the total to 7 presentations.

Reports from Affiliate Organizations and Programs/Announcements:

No reports or announcements were made.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Crawford, Secretary