

**Council for Community Accessibility
Meeting Notes for July 27, 2020, 4:00-5:30 p.m.**

Katie Herron opened the meeting by Zoom at 4:00 p.m.

Members: Katie Herron, Trish Ierino, Hal Turner, Chris Jackson, Cindy Fleetwood, Michelle Hahn, David Carter, Susan Russ Chris Jackson, Katie Anderson, Eli McCormick, John Brady, Cori Mitchell, Natalie Sturbaum, Chris Baskins, Sara Frommer and Linda Crawford.

Staff: Michael Shermis, Kat Keller

Minutes: Minutes were accepted as distributed.

Financial Report: Balance in the CCA account is \$3,517.18. This amount reflects no change from the previous month, but there are expenses for ice cream awards for the 30th ADA celebration to be paid and grant money for Gather 'Round the Table is anticipated to arrive soon. Letters had been sent out recently to former contributors of the CCA's event.

Media: Continue sending articles to Michael to be posted on FaceBook. Adria Nassim's column in Tuesday's H-T will cover the virtual ADA celebration held last Thursday. Chris mentioned that there is free access to the *New York Times* through the library.

Partner Organizations Awareness & Outreach: Chris Jackson reminded members that the Monroe County Public Library is currently taking appointments for curbside pickup and that the book mobile has resumed its normal schedule. The library will soon be taking appointments for use of the computer room for specific activities.

Eli said that the BT is continuing its no-charge policy through August with an almost normal schedule for campus, but with no extra buses. The practice of using only the back door continues unless the rider indicates to the driver that using the front door is absolutely necessary.

If a person needs a Covid-19 test, go to www.coronavirus.in.gov to find a testing site. It was noted by another member that the CVS in Ellettsville is also a testing site.

Report from the city: Michael reported that July's scheduled speaker, Mary Catherine Carmichael, will not be attending as she was scheduled for another meeting. However, Michael passed on Mary Catherine's request to take the short survey at bloomingtonhospital.com to assist in planning the redevelopment of the present hospital site so that it best serves the community.

New Accessibility Concerns: There were no new accessibility concerns presented.

Committee Reports:

- A. Accessibility Committee: Chris mentioned that the Monroe County sites within the city limits had several deficiencies that would need to be addressed before being awarded a decal. The Council's Accessibility Committee does not assess Monroe County sites

for full ADA certification as completing a 89-page survey is beyond the scope of feasibility of the surveyors. Chris reminded Council members that successfully completing the committee's survey is not the same as ADA certification.

Leslie Green contacted Hal Turner, President of Monroe County Election Board, about using a new survey tool for assessing polling sites. There is a total of 34 polling sites and would require 6-8 volunteers to complete the surveying that must be done by the end of August. Scheduling times to survey these sites becomes difficult when availability of open buildings is limited. In response to the request for having chairs with arms to be available at the polling sites, Hal said he would add the request to the next meeting's agenda.

- B. Transportation and Mobility Committee: In Barbara's absence, Michael reported that the educational event to be held on the first Friday in November is in question now. Also, the layout of the second set of Switchyard apartments is tricky to navigate and communication with the manager of the apartments is needed. The next committee meeting is August 10th.
- C. Activities and Events Committee: Susan reported that this year's 30th celebration of the ADA held via Zoom on Thursday, July 23rd with six partners this year (PALS, MCPL, Down's Syndrome Family Connection, Stonebelt, IDIC, and Safe and Civil City, Bloomington) included activities that were educational, enlightening, fun, and engaging. Those completing four of the six challenges will receive a coupon for ice cream from the Chocolate Moose. In addition, five gift cards provided by IU Credit Union (made possible by Trish Ierino), were awarded to Casey Guarino, Ethan Ficko, Matt Speidel, Adria Nassim, and Tiffany Hanner. Michael added that he received a lot of positive feedback following the virtual event.

Discussion continued on Gather 'Round the Table, which will be held on October 1st at the Convention Center. Author of *Disability Visibility*, Alice Wong, has committed to be in attendance at this year's event, which will also be available by Zoom. Limiting attendance to a specific number, screening for the virus, wearing of masks, and longer tables will be necessary components of the event. Appetizers and dessert will be served between presentation and discussion segments. People wishing to attend need to respond to Michael as to their preference for in-person or Zoom participation. If further state- or other-imposed restrictions are enacted, the event will be offered exclusively on Zoom.

Next planning meeting for the event will be held via Zoom on Monday, August 3rd at 2:00 pm. Let Michael know if you are interested in attending so that he can send the link for the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Linda Crawford