

**Council for Community Accessibility
Meeting Notes for June 29, 2020, 4:00-5:30 p.m.**

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

Members: Michelle Hahn, David Carter, Susan Russ, Michelle Bright, Susan Russ, Chris Jackson, Katie Anderson, Rachel Guglielmo, Zoe Waters, Eli McCormick, Iris Kiesling, Mary Stores and Linda Crawford.

Staff: Michael Shermis, Kat Keller, Mary Catherine Carmichael,

Guests: Shatoyia Moss, Safe and Civil City Director, City of Bloomington, Mary Mogan, Chamber of Commerce, David Askins, B Square Beacon

Minutes: Minutes were accepted as printed.

Financial Report: Balance in the CCA account is \$3,517.18.

Media: Facebook has had lots of interesting posts.

Partner Organizations Awareness & Outreach: Chris Jackson said Monroe County Public Library is beginning its strategic planning for 2021-2023. The library would like community members to take the 6-7 minute survey that will help the library identify additional ways to better serve Monroe County residents. This can be done online at mcpl.info/survey. There have been several changes brought about by the partnership between the CCA and the Library.

Report from the city: Michael will integrate city items into the various committee reports, but asked if any organization is presently using Lazarillo software.

Mary Catherine Carmichael encouraged people to take the short survey at bloomingtonhospital.com to assist in planning the redevelopment of the present hospital so that it best serves the community. She will come next month to talk further about it.

New Accessibility Concerns: Mary Morgan requested that the city and county councils continue the Zoom access to their meetings once in-person meetings are resumed. Michael suggested drafting a statement/request to urge the continued use of zoom at meetings. This would be acted upon by the CCA's Executive Committee and then distributed to the Council for approval. The approved document would then be distributed to other commissions and boards. Also noted was whereas live captioning would include a larger audience, cost to do this might prove to be prohibitive.

Guest Presentation: Shatoyia Moss, Safe and Civil City Director, who is the staff liaison with the Commission on the Status of Children and Youth and the Commission on the Status of Black Males, provided information on July's ADA celebration which will be delivered in a virtual structure. By using Zoom and other social media software, it will be possible to make the event interactive, include animation, and be available for reuse. Michael, intern Kat Keller,

and Shatoyia are presently at work in providing the framework for the activities to be offered to the online participants.

Committee Reports:

- A. Accessibility Committee: Chris reported that during this time of limited use of buildings, surveys completed by Michael show that the Police substation and the Animal Control facility are fully accessible and will eventually receive decals. The fire stations are public places that are designated as Safe Places that have been surveyed have minor issues to correct before they can be recognized as accessible. The Baneker Center is close to being designated as accessible, as is the new coffee shop, Brilliant Coffee Co., located at the old taxi/cab center on Sixth Street.
- B. Transportation and Mobility Committee: In Barbara's absence, Michael reported that the committee looked into the possibility of a wheelchair accessible taxi. (There is currently an on-demand service for this in Columbia, Maryland.) The focus group is looking into potential providers, potential wheelchair users, and potential funders. Plans for the educational event to be held on the first Friday in November are on hold for the present.
- C. Activities and Events Committee: Susan reported that there this year's 30th celebration of the ADA will be held via Zoom on Thursday, July 23rd from 10:00 to 12:00 noon. With six partners this year (PALS, MCPL, Down's Syndrome Family Connection, Stone Belt, IIDC, and Safe and Civil City, Bloomington) the focus will be on impacting children to raise their awareness of disabilities and accessibility. The virtual celebration will feature interactive challenges 10 minute each in length. In addition to the CCA newsletter, information will be distributed by MCCSC, Boys and Girls Club, 4-H Girls, Inc., MCPL, Wonderlab, and more. Pre-registration is encouraged, although same day registration by 11:00 a.m. will be accepted. Special accommodations will need to be submitted when registering. Those completing four of the six challenges will be rewarded with an electronic coupon for ice cream. CCA members will be asked to participate in a practice session prior to the virtual celebration.

Gather 'round the Table is on the calendar for October 1st at the Convention Center. Discussion of Resistance and Hope or Disability Visibility will be the focus of this year's event; editor of the books, Alice Wong, has committed to be in attendance at this year's event. The Asian American Studies Program at IU, wishes to be a co-sponsor of the event, with the possibility of other groups requesting to co-sponsors. Increased sponsorship allows consideration of a larger audience. The Council has received a \$3000 matching action grant from the Indiana Humanities to support this event.

Other comments: Bloomington Transit is fare-free through July.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Crawford