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Council for Community Accessibility Meeting Notes for May 24, 2021, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

The Zoom-meeting was opened at 4:00 p.m. with members introducing themselves.

Members: David Carter, John Brady, Susan Russ, Nick Philbeck, Chris Jackson, Eli McCormick, Sara Frommer, Zoe Waters, Barbara Salisbury, Michelle Hahn, Barbara McKinney, Iris Kiesling, Zac Huneck, Charles Culp, Ben Wendell, and Linda Crawford.

Guests: Tim Street, Carole Canfield,

Staff: Michael Shermis, Michelle Moss

Minutes: Minutes were accepted as distributed.

Financial Report: Balance in the CCA account is \$2721.18 after expenses for the Breaking Down the Barriers event last month.

Partner Organizations Awareness & Outreach:

- Charles Culp, College Internship Program Coordinator, (cculp@cpibloomington.org), announced that there will be an autism component added to their program beginning in the fall.
- Barbara Salisbury announced that the 50th anniversary of the American Council for the Blind will be celebrated by a picnic at Brown County State Park. She encouraged those in attendance to spread the word.
- Eli McCormick announced that Bloomington Transit will reinstate fares for bus riding on July 1st. This includes passes, and ID's will once again be checked.

Report from the City:

- Michael reported the City will continue to follow safe Covid practices through the summer.
- Other city items will be covered in the committee reports.

New Accessibility Concerns:

- Zoe mentioned a location in the city that is difficult to navigate in her wheelchair. She will send a picture of this location to Michael who will then assess this situation.
- Carole brought up the matter of the closure of the lower Cascades Park road not being user friendly for those persons with disabilities. She pointed out that Cascades is a historic park, and a potential national historic listing. (The road was the first highway into Bloomington.) Tim Street, Operations Officer of the Parks and Recreation Department, attended a meeting of concerned citizens two Saturday's ago and intends to stay in touch with the city's residents concerning this issue.

Committee Reports:

A. Accessibility Committee:

- Chris reported that he has looked into the situation of closure of Lower Cascades Road, but access to the park goes beyond ADA standards. However, he has noted that there are some accessibility concerns with the trail and is working with the Parks and Recreation department to correct signage and certain restroom facilities that are not in compliance with the code. Nick suggested that perhaps a list of resources could be compiled that would direct people to organizations that might be helpful in addressing concerns that the ADA cannot.
- No physical surveys have been done, but the committee is looking at how to improve web accessibility. Michelle Moss and some IU students from the School of Informatics are working on designing a survey for assessing web services, hoping to be available and in place by the fall.
- The Convention Center will utilize new engineering and construction to correct accessibility problems from its parking area to the Center.
- One parking garage has made a modification to correct the entrance height problem and the plans for the 4th Street parking garage include the correct entrance height.
- Some changes in parking will be required if outdoor restaurant seating along a portion of Kirkwood continues as parking is affected.
- Changes in wording from “handicap parking” to “accessible parking” will be made on GIS maps.
- Chris reminded members that the accessibility committee is looking to add members and training is provided for surveying.

B. Transportation and Mobility Committee:

- Barbara announced that the educational Pedestrian Accessibility event will be held on Monday, June 14th from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. The event begins with a speaker from the Department of Civil Rights who will talk about shared roads, roundabouts, etc. At 10:00, small groups will make a walking assessment, noting location of streets with accessibility problems. Lunch will follow the walking survey portion of the event, concluding with an interactive panel discussion.

C. Activities and Events Committee:

- Susan reported that the Breaking Down the Barriers event hosted 67 attendees on Monday, April 26th from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Michael is completing follow up materials (Lessons Learned and links to the videos) to be sent to attendees.
- Susan raised the question about how to celebrate the ADA anniversary this year. After consideration of Switchyard Park, the reverse July 4th Parade, the B-line trail and the Library plaza, the consensus of the Council was to hold the

event at the Library, pending Chris' looking into the feasibility of the location and its availability.

- Gather 'Round the Table will be held on September 27th at the Convention Center. A selected book, yet to be determined, will be made available to those who plan to attend. The hybrid event will include the author of the book.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Crawford, Secretary