

Disability Awareness Starts Here (DASH)

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, December 5th, 2017, noon to 2:00 at the Community Center

Attendees: Marion Huxtable, Bonnie Bolster, Miranda Nash, Pat Teal,

Absent: Celia Fry, Leesa Monroe, Jack McCreary

Guests: Zahn Manning, President of Friends of Fort Worden

Additions to Agenda:

JC Hospital service policy moved to Dec. 13th @ 3:30 Dirksen Auditorium.

ACAC moved to the Dec. 29th.

Kai Tai Trail and Rotary Trail.

Minutes:

Pat suggested that Zahn's Name needs to be corrected. Marion moved to approve and all approve.

Treasurer's Report:

DASH regular acct. balance: \$4429.46. Emergency acct. balance: \$7.77.

Friends of Fort Worden:

Zahn brought some information that was discussed during last month's DASH meeting.

- Benches: Zahn surveyed where the benches are in Fort Worden. There are 19 benches and 2 wooden temp benches. FFW would like to put them on the new trail map to indicate where there are resting spots. Zahn would like DASH's input on where any additional benches should be placed. Pat asked if this information will be on the interactive map as well. The new trail maps should be available at the beginning of 2018.
- Access to Artillery Hill: The gate on the trail is locked at all times, closed to vehicle traffic, with the exception of service vehicles, due to deterioration of the road. Regarding the concern of individuals with disabilities gaining access to artillery hill, there is a seven foot opening that mobility devices will be able to gain access through. Marion added that the ground around the entrance is very rough and may be hazardous for mobility devices to try and maneuver. Marion would like to take some pictures, after the drainage is fixed, and posted on the DASH website. Marion inquired what methods are used to deal with mud, Zahn said suspects they use gravel. Marion would like to know what size gravel FFW uses and where they obtain it from, as DASH may be able to use it as a suggestion for other evaluations.
- Adding assisted listening devices to different venues at the park; Centrum currently has assisted listening devices. FFW would like to have one available at the commons desk

available for checkout for any events that may need one. Zahn will inquire the FFW board about assisted listening devices, but would like suggestions on how many they may need. Marion suggested approximately 25.

- Year round access to beach wheelchair/walker when the Cantina is closed: There is a park ranger for the camp grounds that may be able to supervise checkouts of the devices. Check out and usage tracking may be possible at the Commons. Need more brochures or ads to educate people the beach devices are available. Finding out who owns the devices, and partnering with them to better manage the use of the devices and marketing of availability.
- Pat suggested that there should be a wheelchair at the commons. When Pat and Jack did their evaluation of accommodations at the Fort, they found a need for wheelchair when checking out.

Trail Evaluations:

- **Kai Tai:** Marion walked the Kai Tai trail yesterday, and finds the trail is inconsistent. Sections of the trail are solid, while other sections are muddy. The gravel is also inconsistent, with some sections having too much and some having none at all. Marion would like to have someone in a wheelchair test the trail. Pat will inquire will Alex about the progress of the Kai Tai Trail and provide him with Marion's feedback.
- **Rotary:** Marion sent a letter to the Rotary last week about the overgrowth on the trail near the Courtyard Café.
- **Accessible Route by Rainier Street:** Pat will evaluate, most likely in January.
- **Larry Scott up to the Paper Mill:** Marion would like her and Jack to go and evaluate the Larry Scott Trail. She will arrange a time with Jack.

Website:

Miranda will remove the postings, has the new trails page set up and the drop down menu added.

Pat would like to add a link to the resources page to the project lifesaver tracking device through the Sheriff's office.

Assisted listening devices at the library, Pat will ask Joanna to write up a small paragraph to add to the DASH website for the blog.

Hospital Request for Assistance: Drafting a policy for service animals moved to Dec 13th.@ 3:30. Pat got some information from Sue Ammeter for JC Council for the Blind about the VA Hospitals policy.

Overnight Accommodations:

Bonnie has two evaluations for overnight accommodations. Marion will collect the evaluations and get them to Bonnie. Bonnie will begin the brochure design in January. Bonnie would like to have a section about the level of bathroom accommodations. Marion thinks that each

accommodation will need a brief description regarding their accessibility due to the differences between each location.

The Aladdin Motor Inn, The Bishop Hotel, Port Townsend Inn, The Swan Hotel, The Tides Inn, two rooms at Fort Worden, Katy Cottage near Fort Worden, The Old Alcohol Plant, Port Hadlock Hotel, Turtle Island B and B on Fir St, Solstice Farm B and B, Mount Walker Inn in Quilcene, all still need to be scheduled for evaluation.

Marion would like to eliminate some of these locations to narrow down location for a full evaluation. DASH maybe able to perform a phone evaluation with a checklist to narrow down the list. Marion will put together a short check list that screen the initial accessibility.

Pat will schedule a few locations for Thursday, Dec. 14th.

Brochure Distribution:

Pat needs to restock her brochures, she will arrange with bonnie to get more supplies.

Community Meetings:

ACAC Dec. meeting Debrief: Jack presented at the ACAC meeting about accessible transportation options to Seattle. Next meeting Jan. 21, 2018, 1pm at the Health Dept.

Next meeting:

Tuesday, January 2nd, 2018, at the Community Center from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm.