

**DASH – Disability Awareness Starts Here (DASH)  
Board Meeting Minutes – December 7, 2021**

**Date:** Tuesday, December 7, 2021, 12:10 to 1:30 p.m., via Zoom.

**Attendees:** Pat Teal, John Frasca, Marion Huxtable, Nancy Johnson, Jack McCreary, Nancy Villagran, and Emily Mandelbaum.

**Excused Absence:** Miranda Nash.

**Minutes:**

Minutes from the November 2, 2021, meeting were approved. Pat asked for a volunteer to make sure minutes are retained and posted on the website.

**Treasurer's Report:**

John, Treasurer, reported that DASH's December subscription to Zoom Pro (for December) was the only expense in November (\$16.35). DASH's checking account balance is currently \$5,220.01.

**Home Covid Vaccinations:**

John reported that Jefferson County Emergency Management is offering vaccinations in homes of people who are unable to access other vaccination locations. People who need this service are encouraged to call 360-344-9791 to schedule a vaccination in their home. DASH will post the information on its website.

**Updates to Website:**

Marion will assemble a proposed list of website updates and send it to the board for input. She will also develop wording for each item, including:

- Kearney/Sims roundabout update, with *The Port Townsend Leader's* article on the October 22 roundabout event and photographs
- Update on the Discovery Road sidewalk project
- Improvements to Chetzemoka Park's signage and access
- čičmähán and business park trails
- Handrails at Haller Fountain steps
- Emergency Management Agency's notification of Covid booster home vaccinations
- Provide links, if needed, to groups identified (eg, JUMP playground, SHIBA, NAMI)

**Kearney/Sims Roundabout Event:**

The Board discussed the reasoning behind replacing the present signal light at Kearney and Sims with a roundabout. It was emphasized that the WSDOT has already made a final decision to install a roundabout and that DASH's input should address the needs of visually and other mobility challenged individuals.

The group discussed the need to effectively follow up on this project. Marion will draft a request to WSDOT for follow-up, including Larry Watkinson, Washington State ADA Compliance Manager, and other appropriate individuals.

Attendees agreed that WSDOT should provide a plan for the roundabout's construction period.

#### **Update, Discovery Road project:**

Pat reported on the City's work to build sidewalks on both side of Discovery Road from Rainier to Salish Coast Elementary. She represented DASH in the stakeholders' meetings and convinced the group that sidewalks were needed on both sides of the street instead of a shared use path. Edge treatment between the sidewalk and bike track is still undecided. Pat will follow up with Laura Parsons regarding the City's plans for this project.

#### **Feedback, business park trail:**

Pat reported that she has walked the business park trail that extends to McClellan and that it is very easy to navigate. The City will extend the trail with a connector. Pat read an email from a citizen thanking DASH for its work on the business park trail.

#### **JUMP Universal Playground:**

Pat reported that Sarah Grossman is coordinating the JUMP Universal Playground project at HJ Carroll Park, which will serve all children and families. Funding was secured for a portion of the project. Subsequently, Jefferson County Commissioners voted to underwrite the remaining cost of the project, including a sensory calming feature, which will be particularly appropriate for children with autism. Pat agreed to send a card to the County Commissioners thanking for providing final funding for this important project.

#### **ACAC Updates:**

Pat, John, and Nancy V attended the latest ACAC meeting, which discussed the ACAC's funding for the JUMP playground and for assisted listening devices for Centrum. Pat discussed the importance of assisted listening devices being available to aid in privacy for the State Health Insurance Benefits Advisers (SHIBA). She also reported on activities of National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Attendees agreed that DASH's website should include a link to NAMI.

Emily reported that individuals may be willing to donate or loan assisted listening devices. Pat will send Emily's contact information to people and organizations inquiring about this.

#### **Disability Rights Transportation Project:**

John reported on the Disability Rights of Washington meeting that he attended recently. The meeting addressed Disability Right's goal of providing appropriate transportation for individuals with disabilities. Disability Rights is developing a plan to address this issue.

**Voting Group:**

Nancy J revisited information on the October 13 Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting. She reported that the Jefferson County League of Women Voters provides accessible voting information on its website. Pat emphasized the need to publicize the accessible voting machines at the courthouse.

**Home health caretakers/Covid vaccinations:**

Pat reported that most home healthcare workers are not currently required to be vaccinated against Covid, which potentially exposes people they care for.

**Next Meeting:** Noon-2:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 4, 2022, Zoom meeting.