

Disability Awareness Starts Here (DASH) Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, July 6, 2021, Noon to 2:00 at the Community Center

Attendees: Miranda Nash, Pat Teal, Marion Huxtable, Jack McCreary, John Frasca, Nancy Villagran

Absent: Nancy Johnson

Guests: Ben Thomson (City Council Candidate)

Additions to Agenda: Meet with PT Police Chief

Minutes: All Approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Regular Account: \$5870. Emergency Account: \$27.77.

City issues:

- Chetzemoka Park: Pat provided an update on the Chetzemoka Park Kiosks and signage. Anna Mchenry was able to obtain a three-month extension for the ACAC grant from the Governor's office to install the Kiosks and directional signage for the bathrooms.
- Haller Fountain Steps: The handrail extension project for the Haller Fountain steps is still ongoing. DASH would like to arrange a meeting with Steve King, the ADA coordinator with the City's Public Works Dept. Marion will arrange a meeting with Steve.
- Discovery Road Project: Pat participated in the project's design committee run by Laura Parsons and Steve King. Pat advocated for sidewalks to be included on both sides of Discovery Rd and that mixed-use paths can be dangerous for the hearing and visually impaired. Pat also advocated for yellow painted curbs and tactile paving to separate the sidewalks from the cycle track to increase visibility and safety for visually impaired pedestrians, along with a rolled curb for bicycle and mobile device users' safety. Laura Parson requested DASH to assist in an "Assume a disability event" for the Discovery Rd project stakeholders. Pat will contact Laura and arrange the event. Nancy stated she might know some individuals who would be willing to participate in the event.
- Roundabout at Simms and Kearney: DASH would like to partner with Jefferson County Council of the Blind to hold a separate "Assume a disability event" with WSDOT in the fall to educate and increase awareness of the barriers concerns individuals with visual impairments face when navigating roundabouts. DASH will reach out to JCCB to request assistance with training WSDOT staff to navigate a white cane.

- **ATAB:** The Active Transportation Advisory Board has disbanded following the City's restructuring initiatives. Pat attended the final meeting. The City's Transportation Committee will be taking over issues concerning sidewalks and curb cuts, while Parks and Recreation will take over matters concerning trails. Pat would like to ensure DASH continues to participate and advocate on ADA-related concerns to the City.

ACAC:

Over the past few years, the ACAC obtained approximately \$168k in Grant funding for various projects throughout Jefferson co. Two projects were proposed for this grant cycle:

- NAMI's shame reduction project was funded.
- Land Trust trail: was not funded.

However, the administrative portion of the funding for staff has been cut. The State will no longer pay for any cost associated with the grant application process, and Jefferson Co. will not have anyone to coordinate the County's grant applications. Anna Mchenry, the current coordinator, wrote a letter to the State appealing the decision.

Business Park Trail: 300-foot trail that connects Business Park to McPherson was constructed of base materials from asphalted roads in Business Park – unsuitable for wheels and pedestrians. Marion is still trying to find out who manages the trail. It was suggested that Marion contact Wendy Davis, former Community Service Officer with the PTPD and the owner of Lila's Kitchen, a restaurant located in the business park. Marion will contact Wendy.

Meeting with Police Chief: Pat would like to arrange for the new Police Chief, Tom Olsen, and the department's Navigator to attend next month's DASH meeting. Pat will send an invitation.

Cicmahan Brochures: Marion is waiting for a quote from the Printery to find out how much it would be to print more brochures.

Chamber Article: Ryan from the Chamber of Commerce had contacted Pat about an article on DASH, NAMI, and ECHHO for the Chamber publication. The article has not been printed yet.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, August 3, 2021, at the Community Center from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm.