

Disability Awareness Starts Here (DASH) Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 Noon at the Community Center - outside

Attendees: Pat Teal, Marion Huxtable, John Frasca, Jack McCreary.

Excused: Miranda Nash

Guests: Nancy Villagran, Steve King – City Public Works Director

Minutes: None

City Lights:

Steve presented the issue of street lighting, that is currently being considered by the City. Arterials and other heavily used streets will always need lights. The question is whether residential streets need as many lights as at present. In Uptown there are lights at each corner. In other areas of town, there are none or fewer. Some residents have expressed an opinion that it is better to omit street lights in favor of keeping skies as dark as possible. The City is changing to LED lights. Soft color LEDs are now available (Kelvin 2700). LED's use 1/3rd the energy and would save \$40,000 a year. They also direct light down and so reduce the lighting of the sky. However light is still reflected upwards from surfaces below. The City does have a policy on the books that lights can be removed. Hence the need for residents' input.

Feedback was shared regarding the need for lights for pedestrians and there was discussion about light colored clothing and carrying flashlights.

Steve described the ongoing Transition Planning for prioritizing accessible routes. This could also include lighting plans.

There are various viewpoints about the issue and Steve welcomes input to assist in developing plans for lighting.

Roundabout at Kearney:

The City wants to meet with WSDOT and DASH this Fall regarding design of the roundabout. One issue is that when the ferry discharges vehicles, there is a steady line of traffic without breaks at Kearney, making it difficult without a traffic light for pedestrians to find an opportunity to cross. The issue of blind pedestrians crossing Sims at Kearney as well as other pedestrians with disabilities was discussed and the need to develop solutions.

DASH proposes: inviting staff and WSDOT to explore the issue at an existing roundabout with heavy traffic, and looking at various solutions especially for blind pedestrians. The Council of the Blind has been especially concerned about providing for crossing Sims at Kearney Street.

Marion has researched solutions that have been used elsewhere and will send these to Steve.

DASH will check with Steve in early fall regarding a meeting with WSDOT.

Discovery Road:

DASH has provided input regarding the design for Discovery Road, especially the need for separated sidewalks both sides. Bicyclists have been concerned about the design since it includes a 2-way bike track on one side. When a group of bicyclists approach the oncoming rider may need to divert into the sidewalk. This could present a difficulty – even if infrequent – for pedestrians. There

needs to be a transition between the sidewalk and bicycle track that is cane detectable and has high contrast for people with low vision.

Street Maintenance Plan:

Steve reported that the City is working on its Comprehensive Streets Program. It involves much maintenance on streets. It also involves ADA upgrades and DASH's input will be needed on that.

Chetzemoka Park – Signage Plan:

The kiosks were ordered but delayed and the delay ran past the deadline for the ACAC grant, resulting in a need to find alternative funding.

Handrail at Haller Fountain Steps:

Has been manufactured but not installed. Steve will check.

Baby Buggy Trail:

The beginning section at the top will be rerouted to afford a more gradual, safer, easier grade.

Business Park Trail connecting to 9th Street:

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. Terry McHugh is no longer the manager of the Business Park. Marion will find out who is now the manager and follow up with that person. The trail is the responsibility of the Business park.

Valley Trail from F. St to Fort Worden:

Steve reported on plans to extend the paved trail to make a complete connection.

Treasurer's Report:

John will send to Board by email to add to these minutes

Regular Account: \$5870

Emergency Account: \$27.77

In 2021, a total of \$205 has been spent

cicmahan Brochures:

We need 1000 more brochures. The Chamber of Commerce is pushing the trail as a popular attraction. Marion will check into the cost of heavier quality paper that matches the paper used for the regular brochure.

Article on DASH, NAMI and ECHHO for C of C.

Ryan from C of C contacted Pat. He will have questions for Marion. Marion will contact him as she has not heard from him yet.

Election: Nancy Villagran was voted in as a Board member.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday: July 6, 2019, at the Community Center from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Pat, Nancy and Marion looked at the outside space at back of Community Center as possible meeting space – it is quieter. It lacks shade but seems suitable.

DASH Project
Financial Report
May 25, 2021

Regular Checking Current Balance	\$5,870.00
Emergency Checking	<u>27.77</u>
Total Cash	\$5,897.77

The 12/31/2020 Regular checking Balance was \$6,075.00

In January:

I filed the annual report with the Secretary of State and paid the \$10.00 filing fee with the DASH debit card

The \$195.00 annual dues for the Chamber of Commerce was paid with the DASH debit card

On Jan. 25, I filed form 990N on line. No fee is associated with this annual filing.

There have been no financial transactions after January