

Wichita-Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board
July 27, 2011
Meeting Minutes
Envision, 610 N. Main

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Present Voting Members

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Sanford Alexander	Jason Gegen	David Moffett
David Calvert	Bob Hamilton	Tiffany Nickel
Brian A. Coon	Steve Hinds	Valerhy Powers
De Eaton	Lori Lawrence	
Rick Eberhard	Lindsey Mahoney	
David Gear	Sandy Martz	

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Absent

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Glen Davidson	Craig Perbeck	Nick Taylor
Julie Hedrick	Susan Robinson	David Waldie
Ed Koon	Marty Rothwell	Shawn Walters
Grady Landrum	John Sullivan	

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City / County Staff

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Migwi Karugu	Shirley Wilson – Wichita Transit
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Guests

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None

- I. Welcome and Introductions:** David Calvert, Chair
 - A. It was noted that we have sufficient members in attendance to meet the requirements for quorum.

- II. Meeting Minutes:** Sanford Alexander moved to adopt the May meeting minutes. Steve Hinds seconded the motion. Motion passes.

- III. Agenda Building:** David C. requested to add an update from Steve on Complete Streets.

- IV. Meeting Minutes and Consent Agenda to Receive and File Reports / Committee Updates**
 - A. No committee reports this month.
 - B. Determine new chair of Transportation Appeals committee
 - i. Sanford had brought it to the board's attention that the Transportation Committee served to review Wichita Transit appeals. However, the board previously decided to discontinue having regular meetings of a transportation committee. It was determined that the board needs to have a standing committee that can review appeals when necessary. Bob Hamilton was appointed as chair of this committee.

- V. New Business**
 - A. Elections: It was reported that we forgot to hold elections in May. As such, elections will occur at today's meeting. De Eaton moved to nominate David Calvert as Chair. Bob Hamilton seconds the motion. Motion passes. David will continue to serve as chairperson.
 - B. Representative to Visioneering – Older Adult Alliance
 - 1. David C. reported that he has been attending the meetings of this alliance. The group is working on issues of “aging in place,” which has many of the same goals of “visitability.”
 - 2. David C. explained that visitability refers the residential construction (ex. – Atlanta, GA) where the home has at least one accessible entrance, an accessible restroom, and a wide hallway. David explained that this is a personal issue to him, as he had the experience of growing up in the 50's in a wheelchair, and he was never able to visit friends in their homes -- therefore never able to see other families interact in their homes.
 - 3. David C. explained that he first started his efforts related to visitability with the homebuilders association. They had 1 – 2 meetings, but he never heard back.
 - 4. This visioneering alliance may be a good place to make progress on visitability, but David's plate is too full to continue.
 - 5. Brian Coon reported that there is also value to visitability, as it reduces the number of falls in homes, therefore preventing deaths and extending lives.

6. Steve Hinds reported that he has also had experience with the visitability issues, and believes that it is way overdue here. He reported that other places are further ahead on this issue.
7. David C. reported that having accessible homes reduces nursing home costs, and it ties in with accessible transportation issues. If people are aging in their homes, accessible transportation needs to be in place.
8. The Older Adults Alliance meets one time per month, generally from 3 – 4:30pm at W. River Plaza (Old Riverside Hospital). Steve Hinds was appointed to serve as the WSCAAB representative to the Older Adults Alliance.

VI. Old Business

- A. 6/22/11 Transportation Summit – meeting notes sent out, along with the ILRC survey.
 1. Members shared feedback on their thoughts about the transportation summit.
 2. Members reported they thought the facilitator did a really good job.
 3. Bob H. thought there were good ideas, but wondered where it would go financially.
 4. It was discussed that in the ILRC survey, most reported that they'd be willing to pay a 1/3 or 1/2 cent sales tax to fund transportation.
 5. It was discussed that the consultant may need to look at other players, like major employers for support.
 6. David C. reported that he thought it was interesting to hear that most attendees at the summit spoke with “one voice,” and most disabilities were represented.
 7. It was questioned whether members thought people with disabilities would support sales tax. Steve H. thought yes, if it would bring about better transportation. It was suggested that more focus should be placed on the value of transportation to visitors (economic impact).
 8. Tiffany Nickel suggested someone should review the statistics for transit users; questioned how the “working poor” would look at recommendations for an extra tax.
 9. Discussion occurred about the fact that lots of money is spent on funding road improvements. This could be viewed as “subsidizing” private vehicles, but underfunding transit. There is also a close tie between transportation and air quality/emissions.
 10. Migwi Karugu suggested that the disability community needs to be on the forefront of this issue, and also speaking out against doctors who write placards for people who don't need them. David C. reported that he has also started dialog with the medical group for Sedgwick County on the new ADA requirements for medical facilities (ex. – getting weighed at the doctor is a problem at nearly all doctor's offices for people with disabilities).
 11. Some reported that there would need to be changes in the system (ex. – a grid system) to get greater support for transit.

12. Sanford made a motion to turn over the summit meeting report and the survey results to both Wichita Transit and the consultants. Brian seconds the motion. Motion passes.
 13. David C. thanked Bob, Sanford, Valerhy, Shawn, and Susan for their work on the planning committee, and also Derrick who did a great job facilitating the meeting. This committee will stay intact for future dialogs on transportation issues.
- B. Lake Afton Park – Review ADA master plan report from WDM Architects and highest priority projects for 2011
1. Lindsey reviewed the report from WDM on the projection screen, and presented details on the upcoming projects to improve accessibility at Sedgwick County Park. Lindsey thanked the WSCAAB members who met to provide feedback to the architects.
 2. Lindsey reported on some details of the report, including the fact that providing accessible routes to the storm shelters was ranked as one of the highest priorities. Another feature of the report, and change to the transition plan, is the idea of clustering the park’s accessible features. For example, some of the first ADA projects will be those in Area 4, which includes an accessible fishing dock, camping sites, picnic shelters, horseshoe pit, and playground. Rather focus on just one type of feature, such as campsites only; it was thought that this clustered approach would be best for users.
 3. There was discussion about how accessible features will be made clear to visitors. Lindsey reported that as accessible features are added, this information will need to be communicated via updated information on the park website and/or updated on the park map. There is some feedback from outdoor recreation sources that providing the symbol of accessibility at every accessible feature is not required, as this can be confusing (ex. – people could be confused if it is like a parking space and only available for people with disabilities, or is it like an ADA toilet stall where anyone can use it).
 4. It was discussed whether there would be a reservation system in place. Lindsey reported that the park currently does not have a system for reserving any of its camping sites. This has been reviewed and there is no requirement that a reservation system must be provided. This is an issue that Lindsey has dialoged with park staff, and it will need to be monitored to determine what is appropriate. More feedback can be provided once the first accessible camp sites are built.
 5. It was questioned if the park has considered a method of getting feedback from users on accessibility issues. This seems like a good idea, and Lindsey will work with park staff to explore methods. There is a link to contact the ADA Coordinator on the County website, and also a link to provide general feedback.
 6. It was questioned what level of detail is provided for accessibility. Lindsey reported that while a number of projects relate to providing an accessible route to existing features in “grassy areas,” the project will include things like accessible picnic tables and grills.
 7. Members reported that the project seems like it will be a good improvement, and is well thought out.

VII. Updates

A. County ADA Update:

1. Lindsey reminded members that they are invited to attend the joint City/County Diversity Training Series that is showing the film Invisible Voices (Wednesday, 9/28/11, 1:30 - 5:00pm at HR Training Room (3rd Floor Historic Courthouse, 510 N. Main). This will include a showing of the film, and then a facilitated dialog with employees. Lori questioned if the film would be captioned, and Lindsey reported that accommodations can be made. If members are interested in attending/participating, contact Lindsey.
2. Lindsey reported on several projects that are in progress, including the Kansas African American Museum that is in design, and the Main Courthouse restroom renovations that were recently completed.

B. City ADA Update:

1. David Calvert reported that part of the settlement agreement with the City is to have people who stripe parking lots licensed. A draft ordinance was developed by Brian, Jay, and David. Sidewalk inspectors will go and check that striping is compliant. Contractors would have to be bonded. Jay will be contacted to see about getting the issue on the City Council consent agenda. Tiffany questioned where fines will go. Brian reported that fines may be used to pay for the necessary corrections. David explained universal parking. Brian reported that right now, if a building permit is issued, it has to be universal. David suggested that he would like to see the striping ordinance and universal design used everywhere in the County. Lindsey said she would be interested in obtaining a copy of the final ordinance, so she could share it with County Public Works and Code Enforcement.
2. Brian reported that electric openers have been installed on the restroom doors at City Hall. He had measured 17# opening force before.

C. Other Updates:

1. Complete Streets: Steve Hinds reported on complete the complete streets workshop he attended. Complete streets focuses on cars, bikes, and pedestrians on a street. There was much discussion about bike lanes vs. bike paths. The consensus was that all streets need to be complete streets, but what is a “complete street” may vary depending on the specific area/needs. There was discussion at the meeting about the need to avoid utility poles in the middle of sidewalks. There will probably be follow up meetings and public forums for more discussion. One issue is that bike lanes add 12’ to the street. Therefore, they increase street crossing time. There needs to be appropriate balance and consideration of safety for people with disabilities.
2. David C. reappointed Lindsey as Vice Chair for the board.

VIII. Public Comment - none

IX. Adjourn

The next meeting will be:
Wednesday, September 28, 2011
10:00-11:30 a.m. at Envision

Meeting minutes prepared by:
Lindsey Mahoney, Sedgwick County ADA Coordinator