

Wichita-Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board
November 28, 2012
Meeting Minutes
Envision, 610 N. Main

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Present Voting Members

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Sanford Alexander	Bob Hamilton	Lindsey Mahoney
David Calvert	Steve Hinds	Valerhy Powers
Brian Coon	Kenny Hinkle	Susan Robinson
Rick Eberhard	Ed Koon	John Sullivan
David Gear	Grady Landrum	Nick Taylor
Jason Gegen	Lori Lawrence	David Waldie

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Absent Voting Members

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Glen Davidson	Tiffany Nickel*	
De Eaton	Marty Rothwell	
Sandy Martz	Shawn Walters*	*Notified of Absence

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City / County Staff Present (Non-Voting Members)

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Jay Hinkel, City of Wichita Legal Dept.
Shirley Wilson, Wichita Transit

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Guests Present

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Barbara Alexander
Don Harp
Shawne Boyd – Sedgwick County Human Resources Director
John Marstall – Interim CEO for Envision (joined at 11:15am)

I. Welcome & Introductions – David Calvert, chairperson, called the meeting to order. The board thanked Envision for their hospitality and providing brunch this morning.

II. Meeting Minutes

- A. July Meeting Minutes: Steve Hinds moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Ed Koon seconded. Motion approved.
- B. October Meeting Minutes: Rick Eberhard moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Steve Hinds seconded. Motion approved.

III. Agenda Building

- A. Requests to add the following items to the agenda:
 - John Marstall, Interim CEO of Envision to address the board.
 - Discuss DMV disability parking tag changes.
 - Update on parking enforcement.

IV. Consent Agenda to Receive and File Reports – None.

V. Old Business

A. Report on Striping Ordinance

- i. Jay Hinkel, Brian Coon, and David Calvert appeared before the City Council to present and discuss the proposed striping ordinance. After good discussion, the Council voted 6-1 to adopt the proposed ordinance. This was probably the 15th version of the document, as it had undergone many changes along the way due to stakeholder feedback. Dec. 4th will be the second reading of the ordinance. It would be published the following Saturday, and then become effective Dec. 8th.
- ii. Grady Landrum requested a summary of significant changes. David Calvert reported that training/licensing is required for any contractor engaged in the business of striping. The universal symbol for accessibility must be painted on the ground. All spaces will be universal (11' wide with 5' aisle), meaning that they all work for van parking. Enforcement is complaint driven, and will be the same whether the owner performed the work or hired a separate contractor. Individuals can contact the ADA Coordinator if parking is incorrect. He can then work with the contractor/building owner to correct the problem, or has authority to write a ticket. The ticket carries the same punishment as any other standard misdemeanor. Mediation/diversion is also possible. The ADA Coordinator can issue a variance where full compliance with the ordinance is not “readily achievable.” For example, there was one instance where an 11' space with a 5' aisle would block the existing curb ramp. In this instance, the ADA Coordinator could approve use of an 8' aisle with an 8' parking space. The ordinance also specifies the type of upright sign to be used.
- iii. David Calvert questioned if this would now be effective in the County also, since the code departments and building codes are being merged. Lindsey Mahoney reported that she has discussed this issue with County Legal department who are leading the code consolidation efforts. Due to timing, it was not possible to include this among the other codes that were already unified (as it occurred several weeks ago at Commission). There is a process for code changes that includes sharing the changes for stakeholder feedback. Legal indicates that there will be other codes that become unified in future packages, so this item could be included among one of those future packages.

iv. Nick Taylor questioned if this ordinance requires any parking lot that's wrong to be fixed. David Calvert reported that ADA requires incorrect parking to be fixed; however, this ordinance is only triggered when restriping occurs. At that time, parking would need to be made compliant with the ordinance.

v. David Calvert thanked Brian Coon and Jay Hinkel for their work on the ordinance. They met with the Chamber of Commerce at the Manager's Office before adoption. At that meeting, the groups realized that there were not many differences between the desires of the parties.

vi. Jay Hinkel thanked David Calvert for the comments he shared during the Council meeting. It was helpful to hear the practical, pro-business reasons why the ordinance makes sense.

VI. New Business

A. Discuss DMV disability parking tag changes

i. John Sullivan and Susan Robinson described recent problems that agencies serving people with disabilities are having when renewing disability parking tags for vans. This issue first came up when Starkey went to renew their tags for their vans that transport clients with disabilities. They were made to give up their disability tags and issued regular tags. They were first told that a rider would need to hang a placard to utilize disability parking. After further review, the statute is clear that disability transportation providers can be issued disability parking tags. Now, agencies are being told that the new DMV system can't support this type of tag, and there is no money currently available to make it happen. Agencies were issued a letter from the DMV explaining the problem, and told to present this letter to law enforcement if questioned or ticketed. Starkey had this occur, and police were not aware of the letter at all. Since then, John Sullivan has been in touch with Lt. Schroeder at Wichita Police Dept. (WPD). There is an avenue for getting tickets pulled if they are issued due to this problem. John Sullivan offered to be the point of communication between disability transportation providers and Lt. Schroeder. Agencies can contact him at CDDO (660-7630), and he will serve as conduit of information from agencies to WPD.

ii. Members expressed concern that this will be an ongoing problem for agencies serving people with disabilities. It is unknown when tags will be available for vans, yet the state statute entitles them to it. The DMV has now backed away from their first decision that they won't issue tags to vans, but now there is no information on when it may be possible. If the problem continues, it was suggested that affected agencies could explore a mandamus under Kansas law as one option.

iii. Brian Coon reported that this issue has been distributed on a list serve received by all law enforcement officers.

iv. John Sullivan will share a copy of the letter that was issued to agencies.

v. Lindsey Mahoney and Brian Coon will notify their respective legal departments so that they are aware of the issue, in case the problem results in any vehicles being ticketed.

B. 2013 WSCAAB Goals and Committees

i. The group reviewed previous committees, made changes, and discussed 2013 committee goals. An updated list of committees and members will be distributed.

1. Disability Groups and Information Sharing – Study Group was an ad hoc committee. The work of this group resulted in updating the WSCAAB's

operating policies. It is not expected that there will be any further action from this committee.

2. Education Committee will continue to meet. Suggested ideas for 2013 include completion of the brochure that is in draft form, and development of a website with information about the board. It was recommended that the City and County share the information on the same site, with a prominent ADA link from the main page of their respective websites. Lindsey Mahoney and Brian Coon reported that both the City and County are in the process of updating their current websites. They will dialog together and with their respective IT/Communications departments about the best method for hosting a web page for the board. There was discussion about the possibility of having a unique domain name, such as wichitaaccessboard.org. The first priority of the committee will be to complete the brochure. After that, the committee can work further with Brian and Lindsey to explore the website idea.
3. River Festival Committee has met ad hoc. In the past, it seems that sometimes the WSCAAB met too late with Wichita Festivals to be able to implement all the suggestions. Wichita Festivals has a new director that is now on board. It was recommended to meet with her as soon as possible. It was suggested that ADA compliance forms should be distributed to each vendor to fill out. Then River Festival staff can verify and enforce compliance. David Gear will make contact with the new director to schedule a meeting.
4. Wichita Airport Oversight Committee met previously to perform review of plans for the new terminal. Jay Hinkel described that the interior vendor build out is about 2-years away. Footings are currently in progress. Steel will begin around February 2013. The building won't be enclosed for 1-1/2 years. At that point, the vendor build-out could begin. Reception areas and counters for the rental car area in the parking garage will be available sooner. The garage is currently in design (approx. 50 - 60%). It was recommended that a meeting be set up now to review the preliminary garage design, as it is easier to make changes earlier in a project before everything is finalized. Jay Hinkel will set up this meeting.
5. Transportation Committee continues to meet regularly. Bob Hamilton requested feedback on the purpose of this committee. So far, the group has worked to help people who are struggling with transportation issues or have complaints. They have also begun looking "outside the box" at transportation examples from other communities. The committee is also helpful in pulling together loose ends and sharing information from other transportation groups. It was recommended that the committee or board meet with the new Wichita Transit director. The committee hopes to continue acting as a "cattle prod" for positive change.
6. Pedestrian Safety Committee (formerly the Audible Pedestrian Signals Committee) continues to meet regularly.
7. Design Review for Major Projects – Rather than meeting regularly, ad hoc committees will be formed to review certain projects. Board members who are interested in the particular project can volunteer to participate in the review. The City's Art and Design Council role was described by Jay Hinkel; however, the role of this group is less prominent now due to budget constraints. It was

not recommended that a board member needs to attend each Art and Design Council meeting.

8. Communications/Emergency Communications Committee – This group has not met recently, but did in the past. It is believed that this committee will only meet as needed for specific issues that may arise. Lori Lawrence suggested that communication issues at the airport may still need to be addressed, but this will fall now under the airport committee.

C. John Marstall, Interim CEO of Envision, to address the board.

- i. John Marstall was introduced to the group and explained that Envision has 500 employees, 200 of whom are blind or visually impaired. He commended the board for the important work the WSCAAB has done, and welcomed the board to continue using Envision as a meeting place. He explained that the Envision building was designed to serve the community, and they are happy to host the meetings. He stressed the importance of accessible transportation and APS signals to the individuals Envision serves. He is especially pleased with the efforts at Pawnee and Broadway and the board's attention to transportation issues.
- ii. The board thanked Envision for hosting our meetings, providing coffee/drinks, and for the special brunch today.

VII. Updates

- A. **County ADA Update** – Lindsey Mahoney introduced guest Shawne Boyd, Director of Human Resources for Sedgwick County, to the board. Shawne will be attending the WSCAAB meetings in Lindsey's absence during the time Lindsey is out on maternity leave in early 2013. Defer other County updates due to lack of time.
- B. **City ADA Updates** – Brian Coon added a brief update that he met with Towne East Mall about the improvements to bring bus service onto mall property. They are making progress, and drawings for the concrete work (raised curb, with bus lane) will begin later this week or next. The work will need City Council approval. Towne East has committed to at least one year. Brian reported he is working to make that year as successful as possible so that the service will be continued for much longer. Defer further City updates due to lack of time.
- C. **Update on Parking Enforcement** – David Calvert reported that it is agreed that the current process is cumbersome, and changes need to be made. This item will be continued to be worked on, with future updates to the board.
- D. Reminder: No meeting in December. Next meeting will be 1/23/13.

VIII. Public Comment – None. Guest Don Harp reported he may email some items to David Calvert.

IX. Adjourn at 11:35 AM

The next meeting will be: Wednesday, January 23, 2012, 10:00-11:30 a.m. at Envision.