

**ADA ACCESSIBILITY REVIEW BOARD
MINUTES
October 30, 2012
Commission Room, City Hall
10:15 A.M.**

Disclaimer: The ADA Accessibility Review Board is a citizen board volunteering their time to give necessary feedback on projects of the City which may have an impact on Title II of The American's with Disabilities Act. The intent of the review is not to evaluate complete compliance with an accessibility standard, but to ensure overall programmatic accessibility. The Board is not presented all the information and is not given sufficient time for a thorough review. The Board's review is merely cursory and should only be considered a recommendation of the Board. The Board recommendation should not be considered a certification that the project meets ADA standards. The Board only reviews the project based on The American's with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines and other U.S. Access Board guidance and does not address any local codes, such as any building codes or fire and safety codes. Any conflicts in local codes should be addressed by the appropriate parties.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Hoy called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Board members present: Roseann Burkett, Helen Hartmann, Doug Hoy, Page Hudson, and Eric Kritzmire.

Board member(s) absent: Sarah Aldinger and Matt Cain.

Staff present: Colleen Moran, City ADA Coordinator and Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant

Guests present: Regan Smith, City Emergency Management and Sandy Frentz, City's Public Health Manager.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kritzmire moved to approve the minutes from the September 25, 2012, meeting; Hartmann seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Emergency Preparedness – Sandy Frentz and Regan Smith

Smith's role with the City is to develop the City's emergency preparedness programs which include response and recovery to disasters and emergencies throughout the City. Smith educated the group on the City's Unified Command, made up of individuals from Minnehaha and Lincoln County, Sioux Falls Police and Fire Rescue, hospitals, Sioux Falls School District Superintendent and the department of Public Works. The City Attorney's Office is also involved as an advisor to the Mayor's office. The City ADA Coordinator is also invited to attend the meetings. The Unified Command meets every other month at the Instructional Planning Center on 37th Street. They review planning and training efforts, equipment needs and run two to three disaster exercises per year.

Smith shared the COAD (Community Organization Active in Disaster) brochure. The COAD is a group made up of non-profit service agencies i.e. the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and the United Way. They get together to coordinate services needed in an emergency/disaster like food and clothing distribution, setting up and running shelters and the volunteer center.

There is a joint information/communication team made up of city, county, school, volunteer group, the hospitals and the state and federal groups to coordinate the communications that goes out to the community. This ensures it is a coordinated message.

Smith indicated that there is a disaster page on the city website ready to be turned on when needed along with the City's Ch. 16 television programming. 211Helpline has contracted to be the disaster hotline and will help coordinate volunteers.

Nixle, a Community Information Service, is also available in Sioux Falls, designed to deliver important and timely information to residents in our area using the latest technology including web, e-mail and cell phone.

Smith expressed that the hope is that residents will be self-sufficient in a disaster for the first seventy-two hours for their families and their pets whether in their homes or a shelter.

Past national and state emergencies/disasters provided some experience for our local preparedness groups.

Smith wants at-risk population groups involved in the overall preparedness efforts and would appreciate any feedback from this group on how to improve/update the preparedness plan.

Frentz is a Public Health Manager and works to bring local hospitals together. She distributed the *Taking Responsibility for Emergency Preparedness: A Decade of Planning* brochure. The hope is to get community based organizations to help those they normally serve be prepared. Emergency Preparedness booklet is also distributed and is available in PDF on the city website. The hope is to get this booklet out to the community. Frentz also distributed a draft of the Tool Kit and would like feedback on its contents.

Hoy wanted to know if they were looking to identify groups with special needs or if they want these groups to have the information so they can be prepared should there be a disaster/emergency. Frentz said they were trying to do both. They want the connections to the community groups, but also want those groups to be familiar with what needs to be done should the need arise.

Nixle is web-based – Burkett wanted to know if there was a phone number to call for people who don't have/use computers. Frentz suggested to call the contact number listed in the brochure to see if that is possible.

Hartmann asked what contact has been made with assisted living and retirement centers. Frentz said they are a part of the community-based list along with the hospitals and their social networks.

Garry asked about individuals with disabilities that live in their own homes – are those individuals being added to a contact list. Frentz said they are working more with service providers like Meals on Wheels and parish nurses for those who aren't receiving medical care. Garry asked about those individuals that aren't elderly, but disabled. Smith said they can contact the 211 Helpline with any needs or questions. There is not a registry; the preparedness committee is contacting the service organizations and the service organizations are responsible for educating those they serve. Moran reminded us that the Helpline also has the ability to get information to non-English speakers through Language Line.

Hartmann asked if the booklet could be uploaded to the state library to make it available for those with vision impairment to be able to listen to. Books, magazines, and newsletters are becoming available as digital recordings. Hartmann will share the contact information for the person at the state library with Frentz. Hartmann also asked if the information could be made available in Braille, too. Hudson said audio format would also be good.

Hudson asked if Nixle would expand to outlying communities. Smith said he only covers Sioux Falls, but Nixle is a national program. An individual can sign up based on their community.

Garry asked if it would be possible to have someone with a disability on the Unified Command. Smith said they are welcome to come to the meeting or to bring a concern forward. Garry added that getting input from individuals with disabilities can provide an insight that people that don't have a disability aren't aware of – the Accessibility Review Board is a great example of this.

Smith and Frentz are willing to meet with any group – large or small to get the information out to the community. Garry asked how the different groups will know about having a presentation. Frentz will be sending out information to the service agencies they have on their data base. If anyone has other suggestions, just let her know.

Moran offered city meeting rooms if anyone has a group that wants to meet and needs a place to meet. She will also check to see if Nixle is accessible to everyone or can be accommodated if it's not.

Garry reminded the Board that some members' terms will expire in May 2013. Kritzmire and Hudson said they are interested in being reappointed. Aldinger has completed two terms and cannot be reappointed at this time. If anyone has a candidate who would be a good addition to the Board, let staff know so we can get them an application.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:07 am

Respectfully submitted by Carol Garry