

**ADA ACCESSIBILITY REVIEW BOARD  
MINUTES  
May 27, 2014  
Commission Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor 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**

Vice -Chairperson Burkett called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.  
Board members present: Roseann Burkett, Helen Hartmann, Troy Osterloo, Patti Monson, and Eric Kritzmire  
Board member(s) absent: Doug Hoy and Matt Pruner  
Staff present: Colleen Moran, Human Relations Manager/ADA Coordinator, Carol Garry, Human Relations Technician  
Guests present: Wes Philips and Josh Vanden Bos, City of Sioux Falls Engineering; Bev Oliver, Cathedral Historic District Representative; and Terry Paulsen, NCCPVA Government Relations Director.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Kritzmire moved to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2014, meeting; Hartmann seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No unfinished business was discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Review of the proposed sidewalk poetry concept for the Cathedral Historic District – Bev Oliver and Wes Philips

The Cathedral Historic District has taken on several projects in the past to visually improve the neighborhood, to increase foot traffic, and to get the neighbors together – to

create a more neighborly neighborhood. This year's project is sidewalk poetry. Spring Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street are having upgrades/improvements done by the City – perfect timing for this proposed project. The project involves imprinting poems written by Sioux Falls residents into the sidewalk cement where sidewalk or alley aprons will need to be replaced. Placement of the poems will be left to the City Engineers. Corners (curb cuts) and alley approaches are the focus of the City's sidewalk improvement project in this area.

St. Paul, MN has been doing this since 2008. There are about sixteen other communities around the US that have done this or are planning to do it.

The proposed imprint would be 3/16" deep and the letters that have centers, the centers would be 1/8" deep. (Sidewalk expansion joints are much deeper than 3/16") This type of imprinting uses a box collar to help remove the stamp once it's been impressed. The other type of imprinting involves a liquid rubber that is poured over a positive form of the printing and the impressions are not as deep – 1/16" less and are closer together but may not wear as well as the other process. Using liquid rubber costs more than the other way so the font size would be smaller to save costs.

The guidelines propose no more than eight lines, 240 characters per poem, and 35 characters per line.

Funding for the project is provided by a City neighborhood improvement grant and contributions by the neighborhood. The funding will provide for two panels to be installed. The hope is that continued funding will allow for more each year.

A contest to select the two poems will be June 1 – July 12. They will select one from each of the two categories – adults (18 years and older) and children (17 years old and under). 'Unveiling' event will take place the first part of September.

There is a concern that the letters may be too wide or too deep to meet ADA standards. The ADA does not recommend textured pedestrian travel routes. Imprinting is not usually seen in a sidewalk. Previously there were concerns from wheelchair users regarding the textured sidewalks downtown. Sidewalks with a 'toe-stub' of 1/2" are determined in need of repair by the City and the proposed imprinting for this project is negligible compared to a 'toe-stub' or the textured sidewalk found in downtown Sioux Falls. The ADA guidelines do not specifically allow or prevent imprinting. Therefore the Board is asked to provide feedback.

Kritzmire offered that multiple sidewalk panels with imprinting would be more of a concern versus one or two panels. Phillips suggested that future guidelines for the poem concept project limit the number of panels in a row that can be imprinted. It was noted that photographs from communities doing this project the imprinting is off to the side, not centered in the panel. Burkett, who experiences tripping with her disability, does not feel the imprinting would be a trip hazard for her.

There is no contrast between the concrete and the imprint. Initially, concrete stain and using monument ink in the lettering was considered. Due to expense and the difficulty of

coloring just two panels of concrete out of the numerous panels being poured this was no longer being considered. Phillips suggested using the ink for the lettering in the future as the program develops. Sediment will build up and provide some contrast.

There have not been any reports of difficulties experienced by 'cane travelers' due to uneven surface. They shouldn't have a problem with the imprints since the sidewalk expansion joints are deeper. Veterans Park has imprinting on the stones that is deeper than the proposed poem imprints. Perhaps we could ask Bob Smith with SBVI to check out the imprinting at Veteran's Memorial Park for his input.

The wheelchair users on the Board did not think it should cause any problems for individuals using wheelchairs.

Ice/snow has not been a reported problem in other areas – most are in the northern part of the country where ice/snow is present. It was noted that moisture would be pushed to the top as it freezes and not out. Chemical ice melt would create more issues than ice/snow build up. A good seal will help protect the surface. The seal will protect against sun damage and make the surface non-stick where dust/dirt would not adhere.

At this time, there are no set limitations as to how many poems per block/property.

Phillips suggested that the project (two panels) go forward as a test and then review with the Board after the imprinting is done and provide feedback to approve the project continuing in the future.

**Kritzmire moved to recommend approval as a test with a stipulation that the imprint is limited to a single panel with imprinting off center and after reviewing the finished project, have the option to propose more recommendations. Monson seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Burkett feels this is a wonderful idea for making a neighborhood friendlier.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Terry Paulsen – PVA has been getting a lot of ADA parking calls. They are contacting the businesses to let them know/ make aware of the requirements.

Hartmann wanted to know where to get paint for painting the area by the curb cut/ramp at her church parking lot. Phillips told her any construction supply business could provide pavement paint. Make sure you get the one made for the type of surface to be painted.

Paulsen has also been getting a lot of paratransit calls – what's happening with paratransit, etc. Moran informed the Board that the last Transit Task Force meeting is June 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm at the Carnegie Town Hall. Agenda allows for public input.

Some options being considered include using private transit providers and operating a buddy system for riders who may need additional training to use fixed route. LifeScape (formerly Achieve and CCHS) is working with transit to find alternatives.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Having no further business, Osterloo moved to adjourn, Kritzmire seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted by Carol Garry