

**ADA ACCESSIBILITY REVIEW BOARD
MINUTES
February 24, 2015
Commission Room, 1st 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

Chairperson Hoy called the meeting to order at 10:16 a.m.

Board members present: Roseann Burkett (10:18), Helen Hartmann, Doug Hoy, Eric Kritzmire, Troy Osterloo, and Matt Pruner

Board member(s) absent: Patty Monson

Staff present: Colleen Moran, Human Relations Manager/ADA Coordinator, Carol Garry, Human Relations Technician

Guests present: Terry Paulsen, NCCPVA Government Relations Director; Russ Sorenson, City Planning/Liaison to Sculpture Walk; Jim Clark, Sculpture Walk; Jacob Maras, City Engineering; Tory Miedema, Parks & Rec; and Chad Kucker, Confluence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Hartmann moved to approve the minutes from the January 27, 2015, meeting; Osterloo seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to discuss and no report of a follow-up on the issues from the January meeting regarding the event center.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers – Per Ordinance, in January or the first meeting of the year the Board is required to elect officers. (This did not get on the agenda for the January meeting so it was reset for the next meeting)

Burkett made a motion to nominate Kritzmire for Chairperson; Hartmann seconded.

Kritzmire made a motion to nominate Burkett for Vice-Chair; Hartmann seconded. Hartmann made a motion to nominate Monson for Third Officer; Kritzmire seconded.

Chairperson Hoy called for a vote of the roster of officers as nominated; the vote was unanimous.

SculptureWalk – Jim Clark walked the Board through the 2015 SculptureWalk (12th year). The Board found, through Clark's description of the sculpture and where it will be located and what type of pedestal it will be installed on, that SculptureWalk takes the time to make sure there are no ADA issues with any of the sculptures displayed. It is also good to know that the brochure has contact information to enlist a docent for individuals with a disability that may need the extra assistance to be able to fully enjoy SculptureWalk. (Board members are encouraged to spread the news about this special service.)

When asked how it is determined what sculptures go where, Clark said that they have a siting committee that works out all those details.

There were 193 entries this year that the selection committee reviewed and selected the 55 (along with the alternates) submissions that will be displayed. A total of 555 sculptures have been a part of SculptureWalk in the twelve years of the program. Installation day is set for May 2nd – 5:30- 8 am.

Kritzmire moved to recommend approval of the 2015 SculptureWalk; Osterloo seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Diamond Creek Bike Trail – Chad Kucker, Confluence; Tory Miedema, Park & Rec; and Jacob Maras, City Engineering

This project is a half-mile trail section of trail that will connect the businesses and neighborhoods south of 57th Street to the main bike trail loop at Yankton Trail Bridge on the west end of Yankton Trail Park. The goal of this project is to provide better access to the main bike loop without having to cross over a busy street. A large box culvert with three sections was built under 57th Street when this section of 57th was rebuilt a couple of years ago. The base of one of the sections was built a foot higher to allow for pedestrian access through the culvert. Construction will start in May and finish by September.

The new trail will come from Western Avenue heading west through city property that is being used for storm drainage/retention and then north down through the box culvert to connect to the Yankton Trail Bridge on the other side of 57th Street and the main bike loop beyond. It will pass by Reach Church where a spur will connect the church area to the trail. And as it nears 57th Street it will separate and one section will lead to the

sidewalk at 57th Street and the other will lead to the underpass. On the north side of 57th the trail curves to lessen slope issues in this area and ends at the old Yankton Trail Bridge.

For the most part, the trail has a 1-2% slope. There is a section along the southern edge of the developed area that borders Western Avenue that has a 4% slope (135 linear feet). There are two sections of the trail where the slope is at 8%. Due to the existing detention berm and neighborhood drainage area where the trail turns north towards 57th no further mitigation to the slope was possible (120 linear feet). The second area could not be lessened due to another existing levee and a sanitary sewer main (130 linear feet).

There will be signage in the areas where the slope is at 8% to designate the area where the steeper grade exists. The sign indicating that there is a slope ahead would be 100 - 150' prior to where the slope begins and another at the beginning of the slope that indicates the grade. As a reference – the grade on Western Avenue from 57th St. south is approximately 3%. 8.3% slope is what a curb cut/ramp has at intersections.

Moran asked if they could put warning signs at each end of the trail indicating that there will be steep slopes encountered. This would give advanced notice for those who would have trouble negotiating the steep slope with enough warning that would eliminate the need for them to turn back once they'd encountered the steep grade.

The park department is concerned about trail users crossing streets, especially inexperienced ones. This is why they try to connect the trail spurs to the main trail without having to cross streets. And to accomplish this, they use the drainage ways to build the trail system because of the ability to go under the streets. This can make meeting ADA slope requirements tough. Other future spurs will be located in the northwest part of the city and also the eastside.

Hoy asked if the underpass would be lit. Miedema reported that no, not as a part of this project. If a need for lighting comes up, it will be considered. It was pointed out that in this area the trail will be 10' wide which would allow for others to go around anyone stopped to rest on the trail.

Hartmann expressed a concern about bikers who go too fast in areas where people are gathering along the trail – i.e. River Greenway. There is no posted speed limit, but the police that patrol the trail can caution riders to slow down. Parks is working on plans that can take users that are passing through a more pedestrian area on secondary loops bypassing these areas – “speed routes”.

Kritzmire moved to recommend approval of the Diamond Creek Bike Trail; Hartmann seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Terry Paulsen, NCCPVA Government Relations Director, reported that the PVA's national architect has received ten different proposals for review to make the seating at the Sanford Pentagon meet ADA requirements.

He also brought up the bus stop on Russell and Kiwanis and the lack of safe access to the DMV licensing station at the February PTAB meeting. PTAB suggested he contact the DMV. People have to cut through the gas station which is not safe for people using wheelchairs.

Staff reminded members whose terms will be up this year that notice for applications will be sent out in March.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business Osterloo moved to adjourn, Kritzmire seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2015.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Garry