

MINUTES	Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.	
Disability Awareness and Accessibility Review Board Meeting	Virtual Meeting Join by teleconference at 1-408-418-9388, Access Code 187 118 6391##	

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tana Zwart, Sarah Jorgensen, Cathleen Zepeda, Morgan Jackson, Patricia Herman, Nicholas Kummer, Carolyn Ly-Donovan, Delores Lipp

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Kati Seymour

STAFF PRESENT: Sharla Svenes, Lyndsey Meier, Catherine Schlimgen

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Zwart called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

ADOPT THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Jorgensen and seconded by Lipp to adopt agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Herman and seconded by Jorgensen to approve the minutes from November 2021 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Artability Preparations:** Zepeda received funds from ILC, but has not yet looked into catering options. They are planning on doing light hors d'oeuvres for approximately 100-150 people. Zepeda will provide an update on food at next month's meeting.

Herman offered to handle purchasing transactions at the event. Will devise a log to ensure record of transactions.

Advertising posters have been distributed at Sioux Area Metro (SAM). Jorgenson dispersed additional flyers to sponsors and discussed marketing at libraries, Special Olympics, Parent Connection, and other local businesses. Will have some additional flyers made to pass out.

Discussed presenting awards and possibly holding off on that until next year's event. The Board agreed they would like additional time to organize and fully prepare an award process. Zwart consulted with an artist who provided input and suggested delaying until next year. This

discussion will continue to next month's meeting at which time they will decide on how to proceed.

- B. **Handicap Accessible Parking Sign Campaign:** Zwart has a friend who is willing to participate and Vicki Stewart with BRN has also volunteered. Lipp suggested contacting Koni Sims with SDAB; Herman reached out to Sims who indicated willingness to participate. Prior to photographs and signage being made, the Board needs to identify problematic areas that would warrant signage. Zwart has begun devising a list of places, which are primarily downtown including in front of Lewis Drug and Full Circle Book Co-op.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

None.

REPORT OF ADA COORDINATOR

Svennes introduced the City's new ADA Coordinator, Catherine Schlimgen. Svennes also shared some recent ADA related cases.

The Human Relations Office currently has 28 active cases. Of those cases, 12 of them, or approximately 42% are disability related complaints.

January 12, 2022: Justice Department announced that Amtrak paid over \$2 million to more than 1,500 individuals who experienced disability discrimination while traveling or attempting to travel by train. The payments were part of a comprehensive settlement agreement reached on December 2, 2020 to resolve the determination that for over a decade to make existing stations in its intercity rail transportation system accessible to people with disabilities, including those who use wheelchairs, as required by the ADA. The agreement also requires Amtrak to make its intercity rail system accessible, prioritizing stations with the most significant barriers. Amtrak will also train staff on ADA requirements and implement an improved process for accepting and handling ADA complaints.

OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION

Discussed Accessible Black Hills, which is a volunteer movement geared towards making recommendations for accessibility improvements for tourist attractions. Discussed providing similar recommendations here in Sioux Falls. Discussed successful past initiatives such as Living Libraries, which allowed you to meet people from all walks of life, that they would like to revive. Discussed recreational opportunities for people of all abilities which included adaptive kayaking, bike riding, archery, etc. and they believe they worked with someone from Sanford on this campaign. Jorgensen will try to find their past point of contact at Sanford that they worked with in the past. Discussion regarding future initiatives will continue.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Jorgensen and seconded by Herman to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

January 26, 2022 – virtual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyndsey Meier
Human Relations Specialist