

Accessibility and Advocacy Committee Meeting
April 14, 2023, City Bdg, 1st floor conference room, 12:00 – 1:00pm

Minutes

Present: Ally Hughes, Davey McNelly, Lisa Simpson, Dan Schoonover, Dianne Bouvier, Michelle Hahn, Rob Delach; Guests: Jessica Adine (Engineer and Public Works), Stephanie Hunter (ad hoc Pedestrian Accessibility Committee member); Deb Burleigh

Welcome

Dianne Bouvier called the meeting to order at 12:06pm.

Quorum established (7 of 11 members present).

Approve March Minutes

- Davey made a motion to accept the minutes, Dan seconded, motion passed.

Guest from EPW (Engineering and Public Works) - City engineer Jessica Adine invited to review city project updates. Discussion:

1. Palmer street sign – assistant director ordering it, adding blacktop. Shafer street – removed bricks by Cider house, removing more bricks.
2. West union street project – removing more bricks. Requested additional delay at intersection for carpenter and w. union cross walk to add a few extra seconds for pedestrians to cross. An official marked crossing is needed between the apartment house and the front of Family Dollar.
3. Dianne shared tracking sheet link with Jessica and will send her a link. Tracking sheet needs parking on Palmer added to it. Next paving project is kicking off this summer and Jessica will add the parking space to this.
4. Committee discussed how Armitage, Luhrig, 682 needs at least 1 cross walk sign.
5. 682 and Union project proposal-- Design firm submitting proposal and then looking at pedestrian route. Bridge won't be expanded, path towards White's Mill and path on other side.
6. Dianne and Jessica will collaborate to write something from city and adhoc committee highlighting changes and plans resulting from Pedestrian Accessibility Plan
7. Dan stated that Stroud's Run is cluttered on accessible trail (Davey sent email to Friends of Stroud's Run)
8. Discussion of turn lanes and medians to promote pedestrian safety
9. Jessica and Saleh will come to the May meeting with more details on proposed projects.

Walk, Talk, and Roll

Details to date:

- Friday, June 9, 11:30 – 1:00 pm
- Starting Location: Passion Works
- Route – Around Passion Works to College Street, up and down Washington, continue down College Street (Davey and Rob will solidify)
- Ending Location: Howard Hall Park (corner of College and Union) – chairs, tent, podium, microphones (Micah is reserving set up). Micah is confirming that the Office of Diversity and Inclusion will be co-sponsors for the event.
- Alternate Rain location – WOUB TV studio (Carolyn Lewis is arranging)
- Based on technical difficulties last year, Davey and Rob will work with Kayla or others to do a short video prepared in advance in lieu of broadcasting live – walk the route and here we are now (with map popping up and then identifying issues as we go) (Kayla has been emailed- do we have other contacts at Scripps? Could Outreach and Comm reach out? Deb will reach out to Akash from Bobcats for Ukraine)
- Joe B to create flyer with Davey (Thanks Joe!)
- Food (Ally, pizza, chips, Davey bringing water)
- Speakers (jw mc; Dianne can introduce Jessica Adine to talk about City plans after the Pedestrian Accessibility Plan (she will give highlights on report); Steve; Bagel Street Deli, ABC (Jessica from the Chamber)
- ASL interpreters – checking schedules
- Invite guests to attend – Lisa is inviting folks from Havar, Goodwill, Dianne is reaching out to Carolyn when details are finalized.
- When details are confirmed, pass on information to Outreach and Communications Committee – media, fb, etc.

Business Accessibility Campaign (Annah and Davey)

-First business has submitted

- Davey passed out mini flyers, which people can pass out or leave in places around town. They are working on a big flyer for posting around Athens.

Announcements

- April 17, 7:00 pm - City Council Meeting vote to “accept” Pedestrian Accessibility Plan. Come and be present!
- Deb is looking for speakers for OU Inclusion 5k event April 23rd at 10:30 (Sunday) at community center

Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm. Dan made a motion to adjourn. Rob seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Ally Hughes, co-chair
 Accessibility and Advocacy Committee
 April 17, 2023