



MINUTES
Wednesday November 17, 2021
Joplin City Hall
602 S. Main
3:30 PM

I. Roll Call

A quorum of members was confirmed present for the purposes of conducting official ADA Committee business.

II. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

All Committee members present reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting and with a motion to accept and a second the minutes from the prior meeting were approved.

III. New Business

- a. **MSSU Parking Issues** - The Committee members discussed the topic of handicap parking signs being covered and spaces used for student parking. This item was brought to the attention of the Assistant Public Works Director, Lynden Lawson, who advised that City would check into the situation with MSSU's ADA Coordination office.
- b. **Meeting Frequency** – The Committee Chair, Steve Urie-Ross, opened the floor for discussion of meeting frequency, referencing that no where in the by-laws does it state that the Committee must meet quarterly, nor is that information contained with the City Clerk's office records. The meetings were apparently previously for some time, determined to be quarterly for the convenience of those members at the time. Mr. Urie-Ross continued to state that there is much work to be done by this Committee in the coming months, and it would be suggested that we meet more frequently to get those items before the Committee in a timelier manner. The suggestion was made that perhaps a every other month meeting schedule would work better than the historic quarterly schedule. The suggestion was discussed and those members in attendance agreed that this schedule would work if the time of the meeting were to be on the last Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. to allow for better member attendance. It was agreed to try the new meeting schedule for a

period of time for the next upcoming meetings and a future vote would be taken if it seems to work well.

- c. **By Laws** – A copy of the Committee by-laws from the City Clerk’s office was provided to each member to review by the clerk. It was noted by the Chair that the by-laws have not been changed in many years and that it should be reviewed by the Committee members to determine if any changes are warranted to bring it more current. It was noted that perhaps the Mission Statement might be an area of update. This discussion was tabled until further review and will be revisited in a future meeting.
- d. **Liaison for Service Animals with ADA Committee** – The Chair advised the Committee members that there was a member of the public Camille Turner, who was wanting to apply to be a Committee member who had significant experience with service animals and that member might be a good person to be a Liaison with the public regarding the rules and requirements for service animals. The Committee members agreed that they would encourage this individual Camille Turner to bring her information to the Committee and possibly apply to be a member of the Committee if interested.

IV. Unfinished Business

- a. **ADA Website** – Assistant Director of Public Works, Lynden Lawson addressed the Committee members to update them on the City’s new ADA Website and development. The website is still being updated but will be accessible by the citizens and will be continuously updated regarding ADA accessibility actions that the City is taking. More information will be brought to the Committee members in future meetings.
- b. **Survey Questions and Survey on Website** - Assistant Director of Public Works, Lynden Lawson updated the Committee members as well on the planned survey questions on the website, which will allow the citizens to interact with the City on ADA issues and help the City focus on the ADA issues that concern the citizens affected by ADA issues. The Committee members asked if they too could formulate questions and submit them to be added to the survey and Mr. Lawson stated that certainly the more questions, we have to assist with focusing on ADA issues the better for the public and the citizens. This topic as well will be updated in future meetings by Public Works.
- c. **Ideas on how to get information out about the ADA Committee** – It was noted by the Chair, Mr. Steve Urie-Ross, that there are apparently many individuals and organizations in the Joplin community that do not know the City has an ADA Accessibility Committee and this information needs to be publicized better to allow information to come before the Committee that may be concerning the citizens. It was suggested that perhaps it could be advertised in the quarterly Citizen newsletter that the City publishes as well as being on the City website. The Committee agreed to these suggestions and that other suggestions would be

welcome to help promote the existence of the ADA Committee to the citizens in future meetings.

- d. **20th and Connecticut Crossing Time for the Red-Light Adjustment** – The Chair, Mr. Steve Urie-Ross, submitted to the Committee members that there have been several complaints about the 20th and Connecticut crossing time being too short for anyone with mobility issues to cross. Mr. Urie-Ross recounted how he has timed his crossing in his scooter as well as others both with assisted and unassisted walking and the light needs adjusted for safety purposes for anyone who walks at a slow pace or with any mobility issues. Mr. Lynden Lawson, Assistant Director of Public Works stated that he would check into the intersection and bring that information back to the Committee for review and discussion regarding any needed correction to the intersection in a future meeting.

V. Adjournment

With no further items to discuss, the Chair entertained a motion to convene, with a first and second motion, the meeting was adjourned.