

Wichita/Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board
Wednesday, June 24th, 2020
Webex Conference Call System
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Voting Members Present

Raven Alexander	Ronald Tracy	Kate Bergamasco	Gary Janzen
Dorsha Kirksey	Crissy Magee	Dee Nighswonger	Dave Calvert
Tiffany Nickle	Craig Perbeck	Chris Rea	Lisa Vayda
Clark Stevens	Nancy Duling		

Voting Members Absent

Dr. Elvia Barraza	Sean Beebe	David Pracht	Rick Rader
Brian Held	Ed Koon	Grady Landrum	Dr. David Waldie
Brian Powers	Randy Roebuck	Michael Fowler	Jayne Otis
Steven Walters			

City/County Staff Present (Non-Voting Members)

Connie Hammond	Jay Hinkel	Paul Gunzelman	Tricia Thomas
Larry Hoetmer	Shawn Mellies		

- I.** Welcome, Announcements & Introductions – Craig Perbeck
Craig opened the meeting by welcoming all in attendance. All in attendance introduced themselves and which organization, city council, or county commissioner they represent.
- II.** Meeting Minutes
- A. February 2020 meeting minutes. A revision was made by Dee Nighswonger concerning the spelling of the organization KETCH in the February 2020 minutes. Motion to approve the minutes made by Dee Nighswonger and seconded by Raven Alexander. Passed unanimously.
- III.** Committee Updates
- A. Transit
- Dorsha Kirksey: There are new funds available and they are figuring out how to spend the money.
- Craig Perbeck: There is a summertime reduction in fares for regular transit and paratransit.
- Raven Alexander: Talked about the current transit fare options.
- Dorsha Kirksey: The CARES Act money may be used by the transit in several ways.
- Craig Perbeck: Topeka transit is doing free fares for the summer.
- Raven Alexander: mentioned that the free weekend rides were not put into place in Wichita due to social distancing reasons.
- Lisa Vayda: Asked if there is hand sanitizer on each transit vehicle
- Raven Alexander: Said hand sanitizer was available even before COVID-19.
- B. Building
- Craig Perbeck: Said the building section will be mentioned under New Business.

IV. New Business

A. Access Board Chair

Craig Perbeck: Looking at the by-laws, the chair position is a two-year appointment and he is at the 2 year limit.

David Calvert: Nominated Craig for the position. Craig graciously declined that nomination.

Craig Perbeck: Expressed he wants other folks to come forward so he can see other people serve as chair so new faces and new ideas can come forward. He said that if anyone has any ideas for someone to become the chair or if they want to volunteer themselves, to send him their names. Craig then asked David Calvert who is eligible to serve as the chair.

David Calvert: He said any voting member is eligible to serve as chair. He said that they have typically steered away from any government employees in the city, state, or county because of a potential conflict of interest. David said that the last chair lasted 13 years and suggested that Craig still has 11 years to go.

Craig Perbeck: Said they may re-appoint David Calvert.

David Calvert: Asked Craig or Connie to send out list of eligible voting members who are eligible to become the board chair.

B. Updates on Baseball Stadium

Paul Gunzelman: Mentioned that there has been an interest in taking a tour of the stadium. He said he is ready to have that happen when the group is ready since the stadium is complete. He said they would have full access to the stadium for those who are interested in taking a tour.

Craig Perbeck: Told Paul to work with Connie and him to coordinate the tour. Craig said that Connie will do the reasonable accommodations for the tour. Craig asked Jay Hinkel what they would need to do to set up a tour.

Jay Hinkel: Said it would be set up as a public meeting. Jay said he needs to ask Paul if he can accommodate that kind of setting since they have the potential of 21 people on the board participating in the tour.

Paul Gunzelman: Said they can accommodate 20 people, but not 50

Jay Hinkel: Proposed an alternative to Craig of doing 3 subcommittees on separate dates to make it so it is not a public meeting.

Craig Perbeck: Said they are information-gathering at the tour, not discussing business.

Lisa Vayda: Asked if they would be able to access and see the restrooms to check on the accessibility of those.

Paul Gunzelman: Said they can do that and check the accessibility of the restrooms.

Lisa Vayda: Said the public areas, restrooms, and accessibility are most important to her when visiting such venues.

Craig Perbeck: Said that Connie and Craig will work with the board to have the tour set up.

Jay Hinkel: Said that Connie needs to make sure that the emails for the coordination of the tour event are in blind copy format so the replies only go to Connie and Craig.

Paul Gunzelman: Said he will get the details of where to park to Craig so it can go out with the email.

C. City of Wichita Swimming Pool

Craig Perbeck: Said the graphics of the pool went out by email and to refer to that email.

Shawn Mellies: Said he looked at the Orchard Pool today to evaluate if the pool is ADA compliant. He asked the consultant some questions. The summary of what he found is that there need to be 2 ADA access points based on the circumference around the pool. They are considering having a lift and stairway to meet the ADA requirements. He discussed handrails and zero depth. He wanted to talk about any safety issues of congestion and railings.

It was discussed to have a railing at least on one side, and adding signage.

Craig Perbeck: Said the advisory board can suggest to the city

David Calvert: Brought up risks to take from a liability standpoint. He also talked about how U.S. Access Advisory boards have developed brochures and standards for use in areas that may not require it.

Lifts, wheelchairs, and zero entry were discussed.

David Calvert: Said an accessible feature must meet ADA requirements.

Several people voiced that they are in favor of the railing option

Dee Nighswonger: Said, if we do use railings, it needs to accommodate any mobility issues on both sides of the body.

Dorsha Kirksey: Asked if we already have an entrance to the pool that does that?

Dee Nighswonger: Said she is not talking about the stairs.

Gary Janzen: Suggested that we have time here. When the pool is in construction in the coming months, he can bring some pictures back to this group as they get under construction. It does not have to be decided right now.

David Calvert and Shawn Mellies agreed with Gary Janzen.

D. Report by City and County on COVID-19 Response and Accessibility of Services

Gary Janzen: Shared about the signage at City Hall. City Hall is open to the public for only the first 3 floors. They are trying to take care of as much business as possible on the first floor for the public. The elevator occupancy is limited to 2 people. There is a concern on the signage. The signage tells people to go to the south entrance. The concerns were mainly for the visually impaired and whether braille was required. The ADA does not require temporary signage to include braille, so right now, we do not have that. Gary is interested in the board's input. Right now, the majority of their employees are working from home.

Craig Perbeck: asked when temporary signage is considered no longer temporary

Jay Hinkel: No guidance with ADA that deals with COVID-19 specific issues if we revert back to the general requirements.

The general requirements for temporary signs are that they are up for 7 days or less. We can go over the 7 days for a reasonable amount of time, but now we are clearly approaching the limit.

Lisa Vayda: mentioned that it is a good idea to make sure people are given these instructions on the website as well as verbally

Jay Hinkel: suggested a basic braille sign at each entrance door. Information for the sign is to say is that this door is locked, now how do I get in? He suggested that the sign should also give them one information line to call

The sign can be set up and taken down at a later time. Putting information on websites is important.

Craig Perbeck: Asked Crissy about the County's response to COVID-19, including working on which signs to switch over to braille and putting up information pamphlets.

Craig also talked about the experience he had at the tag office for people with disabilities.

David Calvert: Suggested that Craig write a letter on behalf of the board describing his experience at the Tag Office.

Crissy: Agreed to check into the mask situation at the tag office and the disability accommodations there.

Larry Hoetmer: Gave an update on Naftzger Park. There is a concern that there may not be ample width to get around some parts of the park. They also talked about wanting to adhere a plaque to a tactile surface. Larry Hoetmer asked Craig for some feedback for the design on the plaque.

V. Public Comments

Lisa Vayda mentioned the opportunity for “I stay home for rare”

VI. Adjourn

The next meeting of the Wichita/Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22nd on a virtual meeting platform.

DRAFT