

Mayor's Council on Disability Issues
April 14, 2021 @ 4:03 PM
Zoom Meeting

Agenda

I. Call to order: 4:03 pm

II. Roll call:

Present: Byrne, Cook, Colebrooke, Davidson, Foutch, Houston, Huang, Mull, Orr, Parr, Rodgers, Shilling, Simmons, Spangler, VanDyke, Welch

Absent: Loebner, Neely, Shipley, Upton

Guests: Regis, Isaac Thorne, Cheyanne Woodyard

III. Approval of March Minutes

Mull made the first Motion to approve the March meeting minutes. Simmons seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed

IV. Bus Stop Improvement Guide (KAT) (Ann Victoria, Aquayla Maxwell, Isaac Thorne) Ann Victoria, Operations Specialists with KAT – How can KAT make a positive impact for the city of Knoxville and community? The focus is the bus stop amenities, such as lighting, seating, leaning rails, and different shelters. There will be new signage going out along our twenty-three bus routes. Four of those routes have new bus route signs. The routes that received new signage were

1. Central Ave
2. Clinton Hwy
3. Magnolia Ave
4. Chapman Hwy

KAT wants to find the best locations for overstock of amenities and develop a basic improvement plan to meeting our goal for bus stop improvements. KAT would like to have CODI's feedback on KAT's Basic Improvement Plan. KAT had

previously provided documents on how to add a bus stop and bus stop amenities. City Engineering assisted KAT with documents and they also went to various agencies to collect information. The bus stop signage was a long process within itself, they looked at the font size, and the heights of where these signs are secured. When you are on the bus, KAT managers call out what the next stop is. The bus does have electronic signage in the buses as well as audible announcements. KAT is looking at adding stop information to the electronic information screens in their buses.

V. Committee Reports for April 2021

Bylaws Committee:

No regular meeting was held in April.

A recommendation was made to review and make a motion on the new verbiage in section 6.06 of the CODI Bylaws. Conya Mull made a motion to accept the 6.06 language into the CODI Bylaws and Angie Davidson seconded the motion, all approved, none opposed, the motion carried. Final draft to be sent to Misha and on to the Law Department.

Transportation Committee:

- The Transportation Committee had a guest speaker from KAT regarding their new Knoxville Area Transit Bus Stop Improvement Plan (still awaiting to be finalized and approved).
- Several guides were utilized in developing this plan, included the following:
 - KAT's mission to always make a positive impact in the Knoxville area
 - Federal guidelines such as the ADA
 - Universal Design Guidelines
 - Guidelines from the American Public Transportation Association
 - Guidelines and styles of other transit agencies

The goal of the Knoxville Area Transit Bus Stop Improvement Plan is to have:

- New signage on all 21 routes
- Bus stop Spacing approximately every ¼ mile

- Bus stops will have improved amenities such as seating, lighting, and rails. ADA landing pads should be installed, to the extent possible, at any stop where right of ways allows.

KAT contributed a 1-month ride pass to Joel Simmons, who is going to be riding the bus around town utilizing his wheelchair and report his experience to CODI & KAT. All CODI members should get a copy of the plan that was provided to the Transportation Committee.

Membership Committee:

- All voting forms are to be completed and turned into Misha by April 13th. The committee is to rank everyone from 1-14 with one being highest. CODI has 9 spots to fill for the next fiscal year.
- The Membership Committee is to send Angie a list of 3 interview questions by April 19th. Angie will prepare the draft interview format and interview question options for review at the April 22nd meeting.
- After the April 22nd meeting, we are to identify our top 9 candidates and 2 alternates and schedule individual interviews with each. The same established interview format and questions will be used each time to make sure we are consistent in how each candidate is interviewed.
- Goal is to have interviews completed and ready to present our recommendations to the entire CODI body by the May CODI meeting so the outcome can be placed on the June City Council agenda.

Community Engagement Committee:

- Finished working on the new definition for the Community Engagement Committee
- Talked about CODI member engagement in the Community Engagement committee
- Angie will get in touch with Cherokee health to schedule them to speak with CODI at the June meeting
- May is Older American's Month. Angie will update the newsletter article and Misha will send the new version to Elder News and Views, VAT, and Office of Neighborhoods for use in their May Newsletters.

VI. Strategic Plan Reports

Livability Committee:

- Discussion on how to distribute the CODI Accessibility Checklist to area businesses
- Started development of a postcard to be mailed out to area businesses highlighting CODI, who we are, and the free accessibility assessment that is available to them

COVID-19 Committee:

- Residents in rural areas still struggling to get the vaccines
- There are new COVID variances that will likely be in our area soon. New variants are affecting disproportionately ages 20 – 40. Decline is happening more rapidly, and numbers are growing. With the new variance there are more instances seen in children who are engaged in sports and on college campuses.
- There are concerns of misinformation from irreputable sources such as social media. There are still many Tennesseans who are unwilling and not interested in taking the vaccine.
- McFarlanes and Mac's Pharmacies are both doing vaccine clinics. There are also resources available to reach people who do not have transportation to open vaccine locations.
- CODI can assist with public communication by sharing CDC site on CODI's Facebook site. A website identifying which places are accepting COVID-19 appointments available: [Vaccinefinder.org](https://vaccinefinder.org)

Universal Design Committee:

- Spent time talking about accessible housing and the statistics out there from AARP
- Older people will outpace the number of younger people and single people
- Older people want to stay in their home if possible
- What can we do (CODI) to bring contractors onboard and understand this is a tremendous need as well as a business opportunity?
- How can we bring contractors on board to see the tremendous need for affordable accessible housing? There is a huge place for developers in this field if they understand the demand and need. If accessible construction is done on the front end its not going to cost as much verses going back and doing it later.

VII. New Business

Our next meeting with Mayor Kincannon will be held on May 20th 1:30pm – 2:00pm. We need to look at our last meeting notes with the Mayor and use it as a guide for our agenda.

VIII. Announcements and Public Forum

Cheyenne Woodyard, Super Pedestrian, Link Scooters.

cheyanne.woodyard@superpedestrian.com

- We have ongoing trainings regarding safely operating the scooter
- We are currently exploring different Super Pedestrian scooter options for people who cannot stand and ride
- Knoxville has worked with the visitor center in making some informational videos
- We can slow down the scooter if it's a first-time rider until they get used to the scooter

The CAC Office On Aging is having a drive thru event on May 18th to celebrate the Older Americans

month and the kickoff to the new Senior Directory - there will also be a Senior job fair drive thru on May 5th in the parking lot at CAC

IX. Adjourn at 5:36pm

Upcoming Meetings/Reminders:

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| May 12, 2021 | June 9, 2021 |
| July 14, 2021 | August 11, 2021 |
| September 8, 2021 | October 13, 2021 |
| November 10, 2021 | December 8, 2021 |

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