

COMMISSION ON INCLUSION AND ADAPTIVE LIVING
APRIL 27, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order:

The regular meeting of the Commission on Inclusion and Adaptive Living was held on April 27, 2021, at 12:00 PM. The meeting was located City of Flagstaff, 211 W. Aspen Ave, Flagstaff, AZ 86001.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT:

James Martinez, Chair
Russel Randall, Vice Chair
Monica Attridge
Alexander Davenport
Sakenya McDonald
James Hasapis

ABSENT:

Andrea Thomas

3. Recommended Protocol for Members and Other Participants

All commissioners should have their microphones on mute to keep the background noise out of the chat room. The chair of the meeting should ensure everyone has an opportunity to speak if they would like. Commissioners should use the chat function to inform the Chair they would like to make a statement and the Chair will announce the Commissioners to speak in the order they appear in the chat.

4. Public Participation

The Commission cannot act upon items presented during the Public Participation portion of the Agenda. Individual Commission members may ask questions of the public but are prohibited by the Open Meeting Law from discussion or considering the item among themselves until the item is officially placed on the Agenda. Each public comment or presentation will be limited to five (5) minutes.

None.

5. Information Items To/From Inclusion and Adaptive Living Commission Members

Alexander Davenport: Northern Arizona Adaptive Sports Association starting new summer programs. This year Hiking & Kayaking. Alan will send out information flyer. Very excited. Officially kicks off May 15th 20221.

Chair recognized a hand up from Vice Chair Russell Randall. Russell couple of things to update. From the Public Schools front, schools are open for in person on campus (FUSD) and we are also working with students who continue to work remotely. Trying to meet everyone's needs in a safe manner. Secondly, I do not see Kelly Arnold here, she is our youth liaison, but

I can report for her, she is also the chair of community and practice transition team of which I am also a member. The team has completed a survey that we did about a year and half ago of youth in Flagstaff, and about 500 youth responded to survey concerning Napta Services transportation and Flagstaff Urban Trails System and youth activities in general and we are now finishing up on that information and in the community. Kelly has worked on this information and will have a report for us soon. Something for us to look forward to in the future.

Chair recognizes Jamie Hasapis: I would like to share that there is a program from the FCC on Broadband Benefit and I will be attending a meeting with one of the gentleman from FCC on Friday concerning this, sadly there is a webinar meeting right now and it is being attended by one of my colleagues. This could help a lot of people in need, especially people with different abilities and who are seniors and need help with connectivity. So, I think this is something we can look into and spread around to the community and share this information. I can share what I learn on Friday at the next meeting.

Chair Martinez: I believe that it is really important that we get our senior population connected with Media and Computers, definitely, Thank-you Jamie.

Chair recognizes Alan Keay to talk on Mental Health Awareness Month: Alan Keay: Thank-you Chair, the national movement to raise awareness about mental health. Each year we fight stigma, provide support, educate the public and advocate for policies that support people with mental illness and their families. You Are Not Alone. For 2021's Mental Health Awareness Month NAMI will continue to amplify the message of "You Are Not Alone." We will use this time to focus on the healing value of connecting in safe ways, prioritizing mental health and acknowledging that it's okay to not be okay through NAMI's blog, personal stories, videos, digital toolkits, social media engagements and national events. Together, we can realize our shared vision of a nation where anyone affected by mental illness can get the appropriate support and quality of care to live healthy, fulfilling lives — a nation where no one feels alone in their struggle. So, in our packets in Agenda Quick, I know this is all new to everybody that we are going to this process. If you go into the Agenda Quick, there is an Agenda Packet and there is a link to take you directly to this site and it will show you what NAMI is really doing and the support methods for our community. Great outreach program lot of good tools. I encourage everyone on the commission and anyone attending to pull up that link and use in your specific areas of influence and communities. Thank-you Chair Martinez

1. **Mental Health Awareness Month**

Chair recognizes Alan Keay to talk on Mental Health Awareness Month: Alan Keay: Thank-you Chair, the national movement to raise awareness about mental health. Each year we fight stigma, provide support, educate the public and advocate for policies that support people with mental illness and their families. You Are Not Alone. For 2021's Mental Health Awareness Month NAMI will continue to amplify the message of "You Are Not Alone." We will use this time to focus on the healing value of connecting in safe ways, prioritizing mental health and acknowledging that it's okay to not be okay through NAMI's blog, personal stories, videos, digital toolkits, social media engagements and national events. Together, we can realize our shared vision of a nation where anyone affected by mental illness can get the appropriate support and quality of care to live healthy, fulfilling lives — a nation where no one feels alone in their struggle. So, in our packets in Agenda Quick, I know this is all new to everybody that we are going to this process. If you go into the Agenda Quick, there is an Agenda Packet and there is a link to take you directly to this site and it will show you what NAMI is really doing and the support methods for our community. Great outreach program lot of good tools. I encourage everyone on the commission and anyone attending to pull up that link and use in your specific areas of influence and communities. Thank-you Chair Martinez

6. **LIAISON REPORTS**

1. **Alan Keay, Staff Liaison**

None.

2. **Stella Hollander, NAIPTA**

Thank-you Chair and hello everyone. I am one of the liaisons for this commission and I am the mobility planner with Mountain Line the public transit in Flagstaff. Update on the Micro Transit Pilot that we are working on in the Huntington Industrial Corridor. Essentially right now is that we are in the planning stage to implement a micro transit pilot to serve this area such as the Food bank, shelter and DES, Guidance Center some clinics and non-profit organizations which are lacking in great bus service.

We want to test out the Micro Transit bus system which is a flexible transportation option which will use our paratransit vehicles and you will be able to hail these on demand through an app or call in option and will be open to the general public which will be like Uber. Really trying to make this area more inclusive by working with a number of agencies to provide an inclusive transportation option in this area. Right now, we are in a comment period for some high-level feedback. We are still in the planning period and this opened up last week and will go into June and I will put a link in the chat for your comments and you can certainly send me your comments as well via email and I will put my contact information in the chat as well.. Goal is to launch this pilot in August and will run for 9 months or at least till grant funding is complete. I see a question in the chat: "How is this being promoted in the community" I can provide a more detailed report next month and presentation on the size of the project as well as feedback from the commission. I am happy to answer any questions.

7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. **Consideration and Approval of Minutes:** Commission of Inclusion and Adaptive Living March 23rd, 2021

Commissioner Attridge motioned to approve the minutes from the Meeting held on March 23rd, 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Randall. Motion was passed unanimously.

8. **Date of Next Meeting - May 25, 2021**

9. **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Chair Martinez to present letter acknowledging Sean Kugler for his work on City website accessibility

Chair Martinez presented a letter acknowledging Sean Kugler for his work on City website accessibility.

Commissioner Attridge stated that she thought the letter is well written and applauds Chair Martinez for initiating it.

Chair Martinez: Thank-you so much. And just so you all know I will be reaching out to Mayor Deasy to present this at a City Council Meeting and hopefully Mr. Kugler can be there.

Commissioner McDonald: I also am in agreement with Monica that the letter is very nice and well written. I appreciate the fact that we are making our gratitude explicit and I especially appreciate that the letter highlights what our basic human needs are and certainly as society shifts through a pandemic we are becoming more and more reliant upon websites and accessibility and technology tools of various different types so I appreciate that we are recognizing that the work is actually advancing the accessibility for individuals with disabilities but also acknowledging the human rights which is high priority right now. I think it's great.

Commissioner Davenport: I agree I think it is very well written and you taking the initiative on this. I was wondering if we have any deliverables on this, say in this letter because of the work you did xyz became more accessible on the websites. Is there anything like that? I believe he was from NAU and was he from a specific department? I am wondering if he is employed by the Institute of Human Development.

Chair Martinez: I would like to ask our Co-Chair who partnered with me on this project Mr. Russ Randall, if he would speak as well to this?

Co-Chair Randall: The way this happened, for the newer commission members, is the City of Flagstaff actually came to the commission members for our input. I for one am not an accessibility expert on the technology, technology is not my strength. So, Jamie and I thought it would be smart to reach out into the community who had more expertise. We met with Sean who used to work for the school district and now he does work for NAU where he is a website designer specialist. He works on all the websites at NAU. Sean worked alongside CJ Perry with the City and it was a long process. I do not know Jamie if we have any specifics on which actual website had improvements.

Commissioner Davenport: Thank-you, that answered my question, I appreciate it.

Chair Martinez: Do not know of any specifics right off hand right along with Russ. But we felt it was really important that Sean get public recognition at a City Council Meeting. So, my next step, with approval from this commission, is to move forward and speak with Mayor Deasy about presenting at a City Council Meeting.

Russ: I move that we as a Commission to approve the letter as it has been presented to us and I move that we also approve that Chair Jamie Martinez present this at a City Council meeting, hopefully at one where Sean Kugler will be present.

Jamie Hasapis: I second that.

Chair Martinez: All of those in favor of myself presenting to the City Council this letter as written

For Mr. Sean Kugler for his efforts to improve City wide websites, signify by say Yea, everyone yea, all of those opposed, no one opposed. Hearing no opposition motion is carried and passed. Thank-you all very much and I will keep you updated.

2. Update regarding grant application for improvement to Buffalo Park – Martin Ince, Mobility Project Manager

Martin: Yes, again I think that would be beneficial to the application. Thank-you so, much. I think the level of support from the community is compelling for grant application and will certainly, help our cause. Thank-you.

Chair Martinez: Martin, when would you need letters of support?

Martin: I would say, if you can, within the next couple of weeks. It would be good to have them in hand so, that when we do get to the point of submitting the final application we have them.

Chair Martinez: We will definitely write a letter of support and I will bring it before the Commission before it is submitted.

Russ: I move that the commission direct the chair and co-chair, that would be Jamie and Russ with martin in developing a letter of support to be presented to the commission for approval at our next meeting.

Chair Martinez: Do we have a second on this?

Jamie Hasapis: I second the motion.

Chair Martinez: All of those in favor of drafting a letter of support for the grant application to be submitted at the next meeting of the Commission of Inclusion and Adaptive Living Signify by saying Yea, all yea's, no opposition the motion is carried and passed.

Sakenya: I just wanted to clarify that the letter will be presented by the next meeting on the 25th, But Martin would you need it sooner?

Martin: Yes, the fact that this grant does not have firm deadlines, I am not sure when the letter would be due. I am comfortable if you want to leave it as is, to be presented at your next meeting if there is an urgent need to have the letter sooner, I will get in contact with Alan and we can figure out a way to move forward. Does that sound alright with the group?

Chair Martinez: That's perfect. If it is needed before the date of the next meeting, Russ and I will make sure to share that letter with you via email. Thank you so much Martin.

3. Marissa Molloy | Administrative Assistant City of Flagstaff Sustainability Program: To Present on the Flagstaff Climate Neutrality Plan.

Alan Keay: Thank-you Chair Martinez, Kate Morley will not be giving an update today she will be on our next agenda. And with all new things that we have should have had an action item 3 under our action items, showed up on Agenda Quick but not on our Agenda that I sent out and on that the Sustainability Team will be presenting on Carbon Neutrality Plan and we will schedule that for our next meeting. Those two agenda items will be moving forward. With That I will turn this over to you Chair Martinez. Thank-you for your time.

10. REPORTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Update on Design Concepts 6&7 regarding Library Accessibility (Ramp) – Jeremy DeGeyter Project Manager for Capital Improvements with the City.

City Project Engineer Jeremy DeGeyter gave an update to the Commission on the ADA Compliant Library Entrance. He asked the Commission for their input.

Russ Randall: First, I truly appreciate the time and effort you and your planning team have put into in soliciting and accepting our feedback. Huge change in regard to inclusivity since the early designs, so, big pat on the back and Thank-you. From the citizens of Flagstaff who potentially who will be using this design to access the library and we appreciate that. I think concept 2 is much more inclusive and I think that we do not have to have any stairs added whatsoever. With regards to the tree, it really does not make a difference to me as a commissioner on this commission because the tree does not really impact either accessibility or inclusivity. So, from my perspective I would yield to the recommendation of the Beautification Commission. I really like concept two much more than concept one without the stairs.

Jamie Hasapis: I am with Russell on this. I think it is much more inclusive. I am a fan of preserving trees. I like the tree it preserves a little bit of the history there as well as the ash tree but understanding that parking is such a need and so this concept without the ash tree. I do like preserving the tree at the entrance it adds a different look. The openness is great, but I do not think it reflects the community so much. Great work Jeremy on this you guys did some really great listening and making changes.

Jeremy: I should clarify a bit, this concept as well as the other renderings do not show any trees. There will be at a worst-case scenario a neutral on the trees most likely we will have more trees in our final design than we have currently.

Sakenya: Left comment in chat: Thank you Jeremy, I appreciate both designs but prefer the Concept 2 for the visually clean lines. I have to attend a work meeting that starts at 1pm but am grateful for all the efforts!

Chair Martinez: I would also like to add I really appreciate the effort that has gone into these designs and concept 2 would also be my vote. And Thank-you also for keeping the trees. Any other comments for Jeremy?

Jeremy: I would just like to clarify on what I have heard, we like concept 2 but am unclear on whether or not we want to keep the memorial tree or remove it. Sounds like we are kind of on the fence on tree in the parking lot, there is a mixed result on that, and we are against adding stairs.

Russ Randall: I think as a commission we see concept 2 as being more inclusive than concept 1. No stairs at all, I think as a commission we are pretty solid on that. Jamie, I am not sure on the trees, do you want to ask the commission?

Chair Martinez: What is the final verdict on the tree situation? How do we feel?

Monica Attridge: I feel that trying to save the trees from consequences in the future is not the best alternative so I would be in favor of removing the trees and planting new memorial trees.

Jeremy: If none of the memorial trees were to be kept, they would be replaced. The trees would not be removed but relocated in a new location

Jamie Hasapis: My fear that the tree behind the sign would over grow it's space and do not think that would be appropriate there.

Chair Martinez: Good point.

Russ Randall: In the interest of time it is generally the consensus of the commission that not that the trees are expendable, but we are comfortable to have the trees removed. I think I am speaking accurately on that.

Chair Martinez: I have just been informed by Alan that we need to wrap up. So, I would like to Thank Jeremy for being here as always and we look forward to seeing you next month on the 25th and Alan if you would like to wrap up the reminder of the agenda.

Alan Keay: Thank-you Chair Martinez, Kate Morley will not be giving an update today she will be on our next agenda. And with all new things that we have should have had an action item 3 under our action items, showed up on Agenda Quick but not on our Agenda that I sent out and on that the Sustainability Team will be presenting on Carbon Neutrality Plan and we will schedule that for our next meeting. Those two agenda items will be moving forward. With That I will turn this over to you Chair Martinez. Thank-you for your time.

Russ Randall: I did have folks from our last meeting contact me about two concerns that they would like us to address and that is to have HR present on hiring practices and how the differently abled by the City of Flagstaff are insured. And then a second issue that has been brought to my attention is to have a representative from the Flagstaff Police Department come and talk to us how Flagstaff Police insure that the mental health needs of folks are either have mental health disability or cognitive disabilities, how the City of Flagstaff PD makes sure that their needs are met through their interactions with Flagstaff Police Department.

Alan: Russ if you can email that to me and I will look at the agendas for what we have and where we can schedule that, and I am certainly will put that in.

Russ: Sounds like we are going to have a pretty full agenda and I will certainly send that to you Alan and Thank-you.

Chair Martinez: My advisement is that Russ and Alan that we split some of this up and perhaps place some of that on the June agenda as well.

Russ: Sound good Jamie.

2. Kate Morley Deputy General Manger Mountain Line to give update on Downtown Connection Center Designs

Kate Morley will not be giving an update today she will be on our next agenda.

11. **AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Martinez adjourned the meeting 1:10 pm. on April 27, 2021.