

COLUMBUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY ISSUES

Minutes of the meeting May 24, 2018
at State Library of Ohio, 274 E. First Ave., Columbus, Ohio

ATTENDANCE

Patricia Kovacs, chair
Paul Walker, member
Nick Popa, City of Columbus, Dept. of Public Service, guest
Laura Akgerman, member
David Cameron, co-secretary
Jay Favuzzi, member
Zane Jones, City ADA coordinator
Deb Wood, vice chair
Karen Kostelac, member

CONVENING. Chair Tricia Kovacs called the meeting to order at 1:04 by announcing that we will meet in June at the Coleman Government Center located at 111 N. Front. This new city office building was erected on the site of the demolished 109 N. Front building where CACDI met for many years.

PRESENTATION.

Tricia then introduced our own Laura Akgerman, Disability Services Coordinator, Ohio AgrAbility and OSU Extension, who spoke to us about Generation Rx. This is an outreach program of the OSU College of Pharmacy that exists to educate people of all ages on the potential dangers of misusing prescription drugs. Interestingly, the program began in 2007, well before our current awareness of dangerous opioids took centerstage.

In addition to her thorough presentation, Laura provided us with online access to all her material—the presentation outline on Generation Rx, handouts, and her Power Point slides. There are also two handouts from 4-H about the medicine cabinet and opioid facts, a double-sided handout called RESPECT with questions for patients to take to doctors (print it double sided and it makes 4 cards per page). See her May 24, 2018, email to the CACDI membership with five links to all this material.

Her presentation generated lengthy discussions about personal experiences.

OLD BUSINESS. Today's meeting in the city's Jerry Hammond Center elicited a myriad of negative comments. Parking is far from the entrance, the elevator from the outside was not in service, and the outdoor lift was not operable from the outside.

ADA COORDINATOR REPORT. Zane Jones was asked about a previous meeting's discussion on the city's old, voluminous transition plan, and what, if anything, are the plans for that document. He explained that the process is to conduct a self-evaluation to determine the city's ADA deficiencies, and that is his first order of business. The transition plan then lays out the framework for how any deficiencies will be remedied.

This again led to a long conversation about crosswalks and traffic signals, covering a lot of old ground that, as usual, led to no conclusions or recommendations.

Zane talked about the kinds of inquiries he fields, many coming from incarcerated people about accessibility in corrections facilities. Also, he gets many questions from businesses about service animals and accessibility requirements in general. Recently he's gotten several calls about whether Franklin Park Conservatory's newly-opened children's area is accessible.

Zane relayed apologies from Nancy Sully for not being able to attend today.

ADJOURNMENT. There was no motion to adjourn but we did it anyway at 2:56.

Submitted by,
David Cameron, co-secretary