

# COLUMBUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY ISSUES

Minutes of the meeting August 23, 2018  
State Library of Ohio, Columbus

## ATTENDANCE

Paul Walker	member
Deb Wood	member
Tricia Kovacs, chair	member
Nick Popa, Cols. Public Services	ex officio
April Williams, COTA	ex officio
Marlene Stewart	member
Karen Kostelac	member
David Cameron, co-secretary	member
Bob Roehm	member
Zane Jones, Columbus ADA Coordinator	ex officio
Sarah Makepeace	guest
Andrea Hauser, Columbus/Franklin County Safe Communities	guest
Tiffany McClain, Columbus State	member
Wayne Cocchi, co-secretary	member
Vicki Prahin (by phone) American Council of the Blind	guest

**CALL TO ORDER.** Chair Tricia Kovacs called us to order at 1:05 and introduced our presenter, Andrea Hauser, of Franklin County Safe Communities. This program promotes traffic safety through a coalition of partners from law enforcement, medical professionals, trauma programs, engineers/planners, traffic safety professionals, injury research programs and community organizations.

The goal is to reduce traffic-related injuries and fatalities within Franklin County. Members partner on a variety of projects to provide traffic safety education, change policy, change the built environment and improve safety for all modes of transportation in our community.

According to Andrea, Columbus has a high rate of pedestrian accidents. Safe Communities works to increase walking and biking and reduce accidents. Most pedestrian fatalities occur *outside* of crosswalks to people crossing in the middle of a block, and most happen at night. The program

has outreach initiatives for high accident intersections and for the Ohio State area. Another effort is called Pace Car in which a driver pledges to not exceed the speed limit and to obey all traffic laws. A Pace Car displays a prominent decal with the words “I Drive the Limit! PACE CAR.”

Safe Communities educates but does not enforce.

**JUNE MINUTES.** David Cameron moved to approve the minutes as written. *APPROVED*

**NEW BUSINESS.** Zane Jones kicked off a spirited discussion about the proliferation of electric scooters from Lime and Bird. They may pose a danger to pedestrians because many users ride on the sidewalks and some models can speed at 15-20 MPH.

City Council is already discussing legislation and is expected to act soon. This is a matter for us to make a statement about.

**OLD BUSINESS.** In July the Center for Disability Empowerment hosted a Candidate Forum on Disability Issues to provide an opportunity for people to meet candidates for Ohio governor and U.S. Senate. Several members attended and praised the event, with Wayne noting that Jim Renacci (senate) sent a representative, Sherrod Brown (senate) and Richard Cordray (governor) attended, and Mike DeWine (governor) did not attend and did not send a representative.

Once again we discussed our mission at length and Zane agreed to find representatives of more city departments that directly serve Columbus citizens for us to talk with. He also reported that a city-county task force on the 2020 census will include a sub-committee on disability.

**INDIVIDUAL CONCERNS.** Civic Center Drive intersections at Main and Mound Streets continue to fill with water at the curb ramps. Nick took note.

**ADJOURNMENT.** Karen moved to adjourn at 3:06. *APPROVED*

Submitted by:  
David Cameron, co-secretary