

Montpelier ADA Committee
June 1, 2021

Subject to review and approval

Attendance: Tom McArdle – ADA Coordinator, Arne McMullen – Recreation Department Director, Marty Roberts – Chair, Jack McCullough – City Council Representative, Tina Hagen – Disability Rights, Chris Lumbra – Building Inspector, Priscilla Fox, Cameron Niedermayer - Assistant City Manager.

Introductions and welcome: After introducing themselves, the meeting was called to order by the Chair, Marty Roberts.

Approve agenda – action suggested – members should review and approve the agenda, including the order of the agenda, as well as identifying items to be added under “other business”: Tina made a motion to approve the agenda, Priscilla seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Opportunity for public comment: There were no members of the public in attendance.

Discussion of final ADA Transition Plan, status update and next steps (cost estimating, financing, priorities, implementation, etc.):

Consultation with VCIL accessibility expert to review plan recommendations and obtain clarification – facility site visits. A full implementation plan is pending. The cost estimation has been completed. There are questions for the staff on funding.

Site visits happened in May and Tom provided a written summary for the committee. The first site was the Transit Center. There is a ramp that is not marked as accessible. There were some signs that were ripped or missing, Tom believes they've had vandalism issues. He's going to order some signs. The posts have been enclosed and the brackets for the bench have been installed but the wooden seat rest has been delayed.

The swimming pool was the next visit. The issue was pedestrian accessible paths from the parking lot to the pool house, then from the pool house to poolside. There were some questions on the cross slopes, the standard is 2%. When checked, there are areas that exceed that, up to 4% but an aisle with a navigable grade for wheel chair users was identified and will be marked

(pavement markings) to provide visual guidance. There are two routes from the pool house to pool side. The southerly route is closer to the ADA slope standards. With a thin pavement overlay, this route can be made compliant and will be marked as accessible with signage. With the railing installed by Arne a year or two ago within the sloped access into the water, the pool can be enjoyed by all including people with disabilities.

Hubbard Park was next. The focus was on the fitness trail and making it accessible, especially at the stations. This is going to take more research. The paths in the park would need to be made accessible which is impracticable considering the workout stations are positioned along a hiking and fitness trail. The most reasonable alternative to provide an equivalent experience would be to consolidate fitness stations within an accessible site to include parking and bathroom facilities. Uncertain whether such a site could be found within the bounds of the park.

Updates from committee members:

Transit Center: ADA compliance grievance resolution update

As reviewed previously, it should be resolved with the new signage.

Marty went to a meeting as chair of this committee regarding socio economic justice, along with chairs of other committees/boards. Cameron mentioned that those meetings are great so the different committees aren't asking the city for money for the same projects.

A complaint came through Corey Line, DPW about a Taylor Street railroad crossing when someone got their wheelchair wheels caught there. Tom explained this matter is being researched with VTRans and railroad operator representatives.

Cameron asked about advertising available showers to the homeless community even if they aren't accessible. Tom was not sure but said he doesn't believe they should since an alternative accessible facility cannot be provided. Cameron will ask VCIL about it for a definitive answer.

Review and approve meeting minutes from March 9, 2021: Tom needs to touch base with Kevin on one of the questions in the minutes. Priscilla made a motion to approve the minutes, Jack seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Confirm next meeting date: September 7, 2021.

Other business: There was no other business.

Adjourn: Jack made a motion to adjourn, Tom seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Tami Furry
Recording Secretary