CITY OF PEORIA
Mayor’s Advisory Committee for Citizens with Disabilities

MEETING AGENDA

MARCH 13, 2018
4:00 p.m.

PEORIA CIVIC CENTER, 201 SW JEFFERSON, ROOM 134

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A = Absent  P = Present  R = Resigned  X= No Meeting

*Special Meeting

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/DISCUSSION NOTES

1. February 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

COMMUNITY INPUT (20 Minutes)

Please note, any document(s) to be presented to the MACCD must be provided in large and regular size font; additional copies can be made upon request. Videos should be closed-captioned.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Subcommittee Reports
   a. Publicity/Education
   b. Events
2. Update on Guidelines (Talking Points) for Meeting with Community. Possible Action
3. Presentation on University of Illinois Main St. Project. Possible Action
4. Goals for 2018. Possible Action

NEW BUSINESS

1. West Main Access Review Walk. Discussion

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

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OFFICIAL MINUTES

The meeting was held on February 13, 2018, at 4:13p.m., at City Hall Building, 419 Fulton St, Room 404, Committee Member Laurie Atkinson, Chair presided.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following committee members present: Laurie Atkinson, Kaye Berry, Kendra Moses-Hagan, Ashonta Huddleston, Melynda McKeever and Mike Van Cleve – 6. Absent: Amr Elsamny and Doris Hayes – 2. Also present was Staff Liaison Scott Reese, Public Works Director and Pamela Perilles, Executive Director of CASA.

MINUTES

Ms. Moses-Hagan motioned to approve the December meeting minutes. Seconded by Mr. Van Cleve.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. McKeever motioned to approve the January meeting minutes. Seconded by Mr. Van Cleve.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

COMMUNITY INPUT

Guest Speaker, Pamela Perilles, Executive Director of Peoria County’s Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for Children program, showed a short video, apologizing for not have closed caption included.

Ms. Perilles explained volunteers receive 30 hours of training to become Officers of the Court to serve as “eyes” for the Court and provide unbiased observations. CASA has been involved in the system for eight (8) months to date. The tax advantage is that it costs an average of $6,000/month to place a child outside his/her home. Currently CASA has 150 local volunteers but Peoria County alone has 300+ children in the system,
exceeding the number of cases in Cook County. Volunteers are always welcome.

On February 22, 2018, CASA will host an awareness and recruitment event called “CASA Quarterbacks” to be held at The Fieldhouse Bar & Grill on Main Street in Peoria. Open to the public.

Ms. Perilles stated the average time commitment per volunteer is five (5) hours a month to be effective. This typically includes attending Court hearings, interacting with the child and making observations. She noted one of the unique aspects of a CASA volunteer is that he/she is allowed to voice the child’s wishes to the Judge.

The Committee thanked Ms. Perilles for her CASA presentation. [She left at 4:35p.m.]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Publicity Committee
No Report

Events Committee
No Report

Guidelines for Meeting with Groups
Ms. Moses-Hagan distributed a list of guidelines for committee members to follow when speaking publicly about this Committee. She also included the “People First Language” list again which was previously distributed. [Hard copy given to Recording Secretary.]

After reviewing the guidelines, Mr. Van Cleve stated the last point – ‘As a member of MACCD, you are an arm of the city and as such, there is an obligation to avoid doing anything that would reflect negatively on the mayor’ – is key. Expressing a concern without offering potential solutions is a pet peeve of his and members should be mindful of this going forward. Ms. Berry emphasized that offering potential solutions also helps put a positive twist on a negative issue. It was suggested this information should
be included in the packet for new members joining this Committee. [Ms. Huddleston arrived.] No objections.

Mr. Van Cleve suggested incorporating these guidelines into this Committee’s Bylaws to avoid any member from overstepping the Committee’s authority for personal gain. He also requested these be reviewed by the City’s Legal Department.

Mr. Reese Mr. said these will be included in the March meeting packet so the Committee can then take formal action. No objections.

Presentation on University of Illinois Main St. Project
Mr. Van Cleve reported on Friday, February 2, 2018, 16 graduate students forming the Bloomberg Innovation team are acting as the steering committee for this design project. The “I team,” as they’re called, has been collecting information along the Main Street corridor and he’s asking MACCD members for feedback. The area covers 400 W. Main to the intersection of University Street and on Saturday, February 17th, from 10:00a.m. to 1:00p.m., there will be a Design Charrette.

Ms. Huddleston commented about 50% of the businesses along that corridor have good [ADA] access. Mr. Reese mentioned the Peoria Ballet Company – also in that corridor – successfully participated in the City’s SINR [80/20] program which is a shared-cost program within the right-of-way.

Mr. Van Cleve suggested a “photo walk” (being mindful of having less than quorum for Committee members) to document access points to commercial businesses, adding it would be valuable information for the City to have going forward. Ms. Huddleston expressed interest in participating. He will report back with the team’s design ideas.

Report Back on Impact on Transportation of Individuals with a Disability if CityLink/Lift Employees Strike
Mr. Reese stated CityLink/Lift has resolved their issue, so this is no longer a concern.
NEW BUSINESS

March Madness Experience Access event to be held on March 13. The Committee plans to split their time at the booth. Discussion was had about inviting the City Councilmembers to stop by between 4:00 – 5:00pm. Ms. Atkinson agreed to pursue this.

Ms. Moses-Hagan motioned to approve the Committee’s attendance and booth participation; Seconded by Ms. Huddleston.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Van Cleve motioned to hold a brief Committee meeting next month at the Peoria Civic Center prior to the March Madness event participation. Seconded by Ms. McKeever. (Committee Member Van Cleve to secure meeting room.)

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

MACCD Guidelines for Public Speaking

Committee members indicated Mr. Watkins had a folder of the Committee’s printed materials – Premise Alert flyer, application, etc. – as well as a new banner. It was mentioned the font size on the Premise Alert flyer is too small and needs to be adjusted in order to meet the Committee’s own guidelines. Ms. Doris Hayes has the original electronic file. Mr. Reeise to follow up with getting these materials printed.

MACCD’s Goals for 2018
Ms. McKeever suggested postponing this topic until Committee members Mr. Elsamany and Ms. Hayes are able to attend. No objections.

Ms. Huddleston expressed concern about sidewalks not being shoveled. Mr. Reeise stated City Council recently passed an Ordinance requiring businesses to keep their commercial sidewalks cleared. It’s enforced on a complaint-driven basis but the City has been proactively educating the public by taking photos of compliant businesses and posting as “Sidewalk Shoutouts” on social media to help promote this Ordinance. The City is
working with a marketing firm to develop promotional fliers while staff is also working to refine the process for next winter with regard to imposing fines on those who do not comply with the Ordinance. Mr. Van Cleve reported households in The Uplands pay $20 each to hire a company to plow sidewalks with bobcat. Mr. Reeise confirmed, stating the City has been coordinating with The Uplands’ contractor to ensure they don’t clear sidewalks until after the City has plowed the roads.

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

1. Approval of the Minutes of the February 13, 2018, Regular Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Van Cleve motioned to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Moses-Hagan. Meeting adjourned at 5:28p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE

March 13, 2018