

**DAGWould?**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**February 27, 2020**  
**West Knox Senior Center**  
**239 Jamestowne Blvd., Suite 101**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Cindy Pionke, Strategic Facilities Engineer/ADA 504 Coordinator for Knox County, called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m. She recognized and thanked DAGWould? members who were present for the meeting: Mark Brogan, Sandy Booher, Nancy Brown, Stanley Taylor, and Shazi Ahmad; as well as students from the University of Tennessee.

2. Approval of January Minutes

Minutes from the January meeting were approved.

3. Cindy's Updates

a. Training sessions

- i. Cindy and Stephanie had 4 training sessions on ADA etiquette with 135 attendees.

b. Approved projects

- i. North Peters Road/Ebenezer: \$250,000
- ii. Cedar Bluff: \$67,000

c. Community Television of Knoxville (CTV)

- i. At the end of January 2020, close captioning for public meetings became a reality. CTV made a \$66,000 investment to make this happen.
- ii. For the ADA 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, CTV wants to interview managers who hire people with disabilities to be featured in public service announcements. Let Cindy know of anyone who might want to do this.

d. ADA 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

- i. Next meeting at the DRC: March 2, 2020
- ii. Activity commitments to date:
  1. Catalyst Sports
  2. Smoky Mountain Service Animals
  3. STAR

4. Patricia Neal Rehab
5. DAV
6. UT Agrability

- e. Transportation Planning Organization request
  - i. Required to update the human service transition coordination plan which looks at transit needs. Intention is to update the plan between April and July, and they would like to talk to the DAGWould? Committee during one of our regularly scheduled meetings.

#### 4. Bylaws

- a. Officer Elections in April
  - i. Coming up on a year of DAGWould? meetings. Start thinking about who to nominate for the following year as DAGWould? officers.
- b. Meeting Locations
  - i. Possibly rotate between Disability Resource Center, Knoxville Area Transit center, senior centers, SPARK, and more.
  - ii. Think about topics and whether we should continue to meet monthly.
- c. UT Senior Design Project (runs through Dec. 2020)
  - i. Knox County Parks and ADA Compliance: they want to retrofit parks to enhance the life of all Knox County residents.
  - ii. The point of their report: if a Knox County resident wants to use a park, this is how we make that happen. The students' report can then be used as a guideline to professionally implement their suggestions.
  - iii. The mobility team looked at 3 parks:
    1. Halls
      - a. Access to greenway, but no accessible parking for greenway. Feedback on adding parking?
      - b. Bleachers are not accessible.
      - c. No access to playgrounds.
      - d. Drainage problems.

- e. Access to community center difficult as the parking is in the back and not safe.
  - f. No crosswalk or pedestrian crossing sign.
  - g. Concession stand access has risky grade and big drop off.
  - h. Pavillion-no place to sit or access to move through.
- 2. Carter (many of the same issues)
    - a. Sidewalks
    - b. Paths to playground and fields
    - c. Accessible seating at fields
    - d. Steep slope/grade of ramps
    - e. Bad drainage
  - 3. Powell Levi (not as much info yet)
    - a. Off of West Beaver Creek into a subdivision with major drainage issues.
    - b. Baseball commissioner told the students that if someone needs access, he will pick them up in a golf cart. They don't open the gate to where accessible parking is.
- iv. Discussion of what are the most important issues to fix first in each park? When you go to the park how do you like to spend your time?
- 1. Family time-take children and/or grandchildren. Difficult to measure the impact because some family members aren't going if they encounter difficulties.
  - 2. Restrooms and parking aren't negotiable.
  - 3. Access to playground, greenways, and bathrooms probably most important for families.
  - 4. Once access to the amenities are accessible, then make sure each of the amenities are accessible.
  - 5. All a family member wants is to be able to get out of their car and have access to watch their kid play on the playground or field.

6. What is the number or percentage of people with disabilities county-wide? What disabilities are included (cane, wheelchair, sight, etc.)?
    - a. Approximately 7-8% (Cindy will get this info).
  7. Baseball leagues use each of the parks.
  8. Schools use Carter Park for their games.
  9. Two locations mentioned with good accessible seating for viewing baseball: Tommy Schumpert Park and Lindsey Nelson Stadium at The University of Tennessee.
- d. Set Next Meeting Location
- i. March 19, 2020 at SPARK.
  - ii. April 16, 2020, location TBD. The UT senior design project students will attend to present what they have come up with.
- e. Tour of the West Knox Senior Center

Cindy Pionke adjourned the meeting at 4:10 pm.