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## ADA Advisory Council Agenda

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

1:00 pm, Zoom Meeting

**Present:** Chair Joe Charey, Vice-Chair Steve Schoenberg, Michael Byington, Kim Dietrich, Robert Nugent, Anthony Fadale,

**Members Absent:**

**Visitors:** ASL Interpreter Jeffrey, Remy, Alleigh Weems, Dan Garrett

**Staff:** Sr. Program Coordinator Zaynah Afada

- Welcome & Introduction:
- Approval of Agenda and Minutes:
  - Steve motioned to approve the agenda, and Michael seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
    - Michael motioned to approve the meeting minutes with the correction of “present” to “presenter”. Motion receives a second by Steven. The motion passed unanimously.
- New Business:
  - ADA Transition Plan: Alleigh Weems spoke on Steve’s behalf. She shared that the ADA transition plan Consultant RFP (Request for Proposal) is closed. The city is currently in the evaluation stage, more news will be shared as the development of the ADA Transition Plan begins. The KDHE grant funding is being finalized for the activities of this project. There will be further updates in the coming months, as this project is still in its preliminary stages.
    - Michael asked if there is a place within the ADA Transition Plan to address opposition to actions that decrease accessibility, specifically relating to RRFBS (rapidly repeating flashing signals)?
    - Alleigh responding, stating the ADA Transition Plan does not pertain to the road network but rather physical facilities.
  - Video Introductions of ADA Members: Daniel Garrett, Director of Communications, shared that the communications team would like to highlight the ADA Council with a video to share on social media. The video's vision will include highlights of what the ADA council is, what it does, and why it is

important. Joe shared that the video will also encourage community members to join the ADA council.

- The average video length is 2.5 minutes. He has two team members to assist him. The Chair and Vice Chair will be the ones interviewed for the video. Dan will begin filming the ADA Council members at the National Night Out Event on August 9th.
- Topeka Metro – TMTA Bus & Bus Facilities: Joe Shared that the MTPO is looking for a grant to improve the para-transit buses. She asks members of the ADA if they're interested in writing a letter of support for the grant. Bob shared that a letter of support is welcome; however, it may need to wait until next year, as the grant proposal has already been submitted.
  - Michael asked about sending a letter of support, attaching it to the grant proposal that was already sent in.
  - Bob answers, stating it is not possible to submit anything additional to the proposal currently.
  - Michael motions to table this item of business until the March 2026 meeting. Bob seconds.
  - Anthony suggests a friendly amendment to direct the staff rather than table the item.
  - Michael amends the motion to direct staff to put this item of business on the March 2026 meeting. Bob seconds the amended motion. The motion passed.
- Old Business:
  - ADA Bylaws Final Approval
    - Steven makes a motion to approve the bylaws. Michael seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
      - The Bylaws were approved on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
  - ADA Community Information Session Updates
    - Anthony shared that he met with Mike at the ADA symposium in Atlanta and discussed the Topeka ADA Council's interest in hosting a community event sharing information session on Public Accommodation and Service Animals. Mike indicated that the Columbia Center would be interested in doing a presentation.
      - Michael proposes that Anthony take the lead on the Public Accommodation and Service Animals presentation. Anthony requested that the council provide discussion points to share with Mike to continue this conversation.
      - Michael will look in his emails to find the meeting notes with information for the presentation and share them with Anthony. The conversation will continue in the August meeting.
    - Steve shared that he has not heard anything from Robert Cooper regarding Equally Effective Communication. He will share more information should anything change.

- ADA Coordinator and Staff Update:
  - Zaynah shared the change in application for all boards and the advisory council across the City of Topeka. Members are now required to sign a conflict of interest form, which will be sent to the Mayor's office and shared with the legal department. The forms can be returned via mail.
  - Zaynah shared that the email regarding mold that was received from Joe will be shared with property maintenance. If there are any concerns and the property maintenance is not responding, Monique will be the primary contact, as she serves as the ADA Coordinator. The issue is now in the hands of the inspectors.
- ADA Council Updates:
- Public Comment:
  - No public comments at this meeting.
- Next meeting: Wednesday, August 13, 2025
- Adjourn: 2 pm