

DRAFT
CITY OF BARRE
ADA Committee
MINUTES

January 21, 2021

Location of meeting - ZOOM

PRESENT: Ericka Reil, Hillary Cole, Dena Estivil, Janell Perry, Marichel Vaught, Jeff Bergeron, Bernadette Rose

ABSENT: none

1. Call to Order: 10:00 a.m.
2. Adjustments to the Agenda: none
3. Approval of last meeting minutes: approved
4. Old Business:

A. Grievances: Dena – clearing of crosswalks, clearing cuts. Jeff reports that work is being done as fast as possible. Bern suggests using “Citizen Feedback” for lighting <https://www.barrecity.org/citizen-feedback.html> with the numbers of the poles that are less functional. Ericka has used citizen feedback including photos for crosswalks, as well as contacting DPW Bill Ahearn whose response is “working at capacity”. Dena also concerned about night safety for pedestrians crossing the street even with reflective gear – Ericka and Bern spoke to ongoing address of DPW with speed reduction. Suggestion for taking this to the Transportation Advisory Committee. Jeff said the idea of pedestrian visibility might be served by letter to editor, Front Porch Forum, to wear reflective gear, lights. Possibly work with TAC for media campaign for safe pedestrian. No action re: TAC

B. Ericka reports GMT has hired a contractor to shovel with there is significant snow. Dena points out that the plows build up snow. Ericka says GMT is not responsive. The bus stop across from NBM has been slated to be moved (held up by COVID) Ericka is attempting to get contact with the snow removal contractor from GMT. Corrections who HAD done the snow shoveling, told Ericka that letters to his boss would

help possibly get the program re-instated. Dena suggests the ADA send a letter. Dena suggests a letter writing campaign. Ericka Will send contact info. Bern - GMT does not have the stop across from NBM on the map.

C. Diversity and Equity (D&E)met on Monday – Marichel spoke that Jody has tried to make COVID info on website more up front D&E has suggestions for website - COVID banner with specific resource info and scam awareness. D&E also discussed the possibility of phone access. Marichel will meet with Jody next Tues. as tech support for getting COVID info in a format that can be put on the website. Marichel exploring the parameters of website with Jody, in support of the heavy load Jody is carrying, and trying to be of assistance. Chief Doug Brent was part of the discussion as the head of COVID for the city. Goal is to make COVID info access for all that is easy to find, that is not overwhelming for readers and creators, while recognizing the challenges of managing website for the City. Also, other emergency info for the city could be used in a static banner. Bern suggests interface with VT – Alert as well. Possibly tie in with Barre Partnership, for ex. Down the line. Marichel reports Jody is posting Face Book that are more descriptive, and doing a great job with making info more accessible. Thank you, JODY!

5. New Business:

A: Request from D&E committee – Marichel. D&E considering workshops to talk about D&E within Housing, Disabilities, Mental Health, and Food Insecurity. What does the community what to know? (info needed, gap in services, etc). D&E would like to collaborate with ADA re: disabilities and MH. Ericka says, “YES” as a partner project. Also, Ericka reports she and Councilor Hemmerick working on housing forum.

B: Ericka - Someone in the past had made a Barre ADA committee banner and gave it to Ericka for when ADA meets in person. Hillary likes the idea of the inclusive ADA flag she showed in previous meeting. Bern asked about the banners – (not in City Hall Park as restricted by renovation Grant in the past). Jeff will ask about other option of banner flying (fire and safety people). Hillary offers banner hanging at Washington Apt. Depending upon outcome of vote for flying flags, ADA could request July (ADA month).

6. Next Steps/ Round Table: Jeff will ask about other option of banner flying (fire and safety people). Ericka will check with DOC field service dir. Dale Crook (Adm. NOB 2S. 280 State Drive Watebury 241-2442 or interim comm. James Baker re: shoveling issue; Follow up with Devin GMT. Marichel meeting with Jody assist with website; Will bring ADA willingness to collaborate with D&E on D&E education series.

7. Next Meeting Date: Feb. 18, 2021

9. Adjourn: 11:01

Respectfully Submitted:
Bernadette Rose, Sec. ADA Committee