

1. 5:00 P.M. Disability Advisory Committee

Documents:

[AGENDA_08_14_23.PDF](#)
[MINUTES_07_17_23.PDF](#)

AGENDA

Charlestown Disability Advisory Committee

August 14, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Charlestown City Hall Council Chambers

304 Main Cross Street, Charlestown, IN 47111

1. Opening
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
2. Standing Business
 - a. Approval or Correction of Prior Meeting's Minutes
3. Old Business
 - a. City Properties Assessment
 - b. Community Days
4. New Business
 - a. Community Center at Shadow Lake
 - b. Upcoming Events
 - i. Halloween
 - ii. Christmas
 - c. Additional item discussion
5. Adjournment

DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 17, 2023

5:00 P.M.

THE MEETING OF THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF CHARLESTOWN WAS HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023 AT CITY HALL.

President Liz Hardy called the meeting to order at 5:02 P.M. Committee members present were Liz Hardy, Amy Benavides, Marissa Knoebel, Cindy Perkins, Christina Gilkey, Malinda Feltner, and Ashley Tomes.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

The final committee seat has been filled by Christina Gilkey, who is present at tonight's meeting.

Standing Business

Amy Benavides motions to approve meeting minutes from June, Malinda Feltner seconds. Passed 7-0.

Old Business

Reports – Pocket Parks, Family Activities Park, A&E, City Hall

Malinda Feltner discussed Danbury Oaks Park, noting a safety issue with the fencing, a cracked slide, heights of steps and hanging bars. She suggested adding a streetlight and a water fountain. Marissa Knoebel said that the fence has been temporarily fixed and the issue will be completely fixed soon.

Cindy Perkins assessed Saddleback Family Park as well as the Arts & Enrichment Center. For the park, she discussed uneven grounds, lack of accessible parking, the height of the merry-go-round, and suggested adding harnesses. For the A&E center, she noted that there were only steps up to the stage and that accessible bathrooms were a concern. Marissa Knoebel talked about the issues with their accessible bathroom and said they could look more into it.

Marissa Knoebel discussed Knoebel Family Park – noting that parking, the port-a-potty, and a swing were all accessible. Things to improve on included the height of the steps, playground surface, and having compliant picnic tables. Also discussed was the possibility of adding adjustable basketball goals.

Liz Hardy looked at both Woodford Farms Family Park and Ashley Springs Family Park. At both parks, she noted that the swings were high. Picnic tables at Woodford Farms were wheelchair accessible. She also said that the surfacing at Ashley Springs was not ideal.

Liz Hardy also looked at City Hall and the Arts and Enrichment center. She suggested adding automatic doors to the entrances of both buildings.

Ashley Tomes assessed Heritage Family Park, as well as the Family Activities Park with Malinda Feltner. Concerns for Heritage Family Park included accessibility to the walking path and playground, as well as the height of the steps between the different areas of the park. Suggestions for the Family Activities Park included the addition of a hand sanitizer pump, a quiet room, shade sail for the playground, fans in the seating areas, and a different location for the first aid station. The surfacing of the splash pad was discussed, as parts are still slick. She also suggested adding more information online to better help people plan their visit. Plastic slides were discussed, as they can create an electrostatic discharge and disable cochlear implants.

Amy Benavides assessed Ben Betram Memorial Park and said she found the same common issues that were discussed at the other pocket parks.

Founders Day Success

The committee participated in their first city event, the Founders Day parade, on June 24th. They greatly enjoyed getting to take part in the festivities and engaging with their community.

New Business

The Louisville Office for Aging and Disabled Citizens

Alli Woolsey, of the Louisville Office for Aging and Disabled Citizens, talked about the Commission for Persons with Disabilities. The commission has existed in Louisville for 3 years and serves in an advisory role. She expressed her excitement for the creation of Charlestown's Disability Advisory Committee and invited committee members to attend their meetings or reach out with any questions.

Next Steps

Additional Item Discussion

Amy Benavides brought up the Community Days event and proposed that the committee set up a table. The matter of having a quiet room was brought up. Marissa Knoebel said that a location is currently not confirmed yet, but others have volunteered their spaces in the past. Ashley Tomes proposed that a public survey be created to encourage public engagement and get a better idea on what the community is most concerned about. Liz Hardy suggested committee members think about ideas for the survey to follow up on at the next meeting.

Ashley Tomes asked what other city spaces needed to be assessed next. Liz Hardy said that she would email the mayor for that information and will follow up next meeting.

Ashley Tomes asked if the Parks department would want a formal report for the parks assessment. During discussion, it was decided that the committee members would email their notes from the assessment to Marissa Knoebel for future discussion in the Parks Department.

Adjournment

Liz Hardy motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:01 p.m, seconded by Malinda Feltner. Motion passed 7-0.

X

Elizabeth Hardy
President

X

Amy Benavides
Vice President

X

Ashley Tomes
Secretary

X

Cindy Perkins
Committee Member

X

Marissa Knoebel
Committee Member

X

Malinda Feltner
Committee Member

X

Christina Gilkey
Committee Member