

**Mayor's Council on Disability Issues
March 10, 2021 @ 4:00 PM
Zoom Meeting**

Agenda

I. **Call to order:** 4:02 p.m.

II. **Roll call:**

Present: Byrne, Cook, Davidson, Houston, Huang, Loebner, Mull, Orr, Parr, Shilling, Simmons, Spangler, Upton, VanDyke, Welch

Absent: Colebrooke, Foutch, Neely, Rodgers, Shipley

Guests: John Barber, Jim Tente

III. **Approval of February Minutes**

Orr made the first Motion to approve with amendment of changing "far" housing to read "fair" housing on page three. Simmons seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed

IV. **Guest Speaker: Joni and Friends (John Barber)** jbarber@joniandfriends.org

Serves people with disabilities through churches around the world. They have a family retreat every year in Dayton and are planning a retreat for this year in July. They train retreat volunteers to serve these kids, with the parents receiving a \$35.00 gift card to do what ever they want to do for respite while their kids are at the retreat. They also do a "Wheels for the World" trip twice a year. This is where they collect wheelchairs to send to prisons to be refurbished and then they are shipped to a needy country. Last year they shipped 185 wheelchairs. Joni and Friends hosts a Combat Veterans Retreat once per year as well. Two are planned for the year 2021. They also do a marriage retreat once a year. John Barber is the area director; funds are donated from churches, and John does a lot of fundraising at Grace Church on Middlebrook Pike. Barber offered CODI a table at their respite events. For more information, please feel free to contact John by email.

Guest Speaker: Jim Tente – City of Knoxville CODE Inspector, Certified Fire Marshall, Building Inspector, City of Knoxville Plans and Review Division.

Accessibility CODE Provisions in housing.

- Perform 50 – 60 inspections a day
- Provides the training for the City Inspectors
- Requirements for new building codes are available online, accessible requirements begin in single family homes where 4 or more are grouped in the same building.
- Fully accessible units, Type A units are wheelchair accessible and Type B units are not fully wheelchair accessible but are accessible in other ways.
- ICC International Code Council is used the most in the world. Knoxville adopted it with no amendments. The Code is updated every three years. IBC is a commercial CODE.
- I look for energy efficiency, fire safety, electrical safety. If the drawings don't pass the code, they are sent back to the builder for updates, then reviewed again and if everything checks out the builder is granted permission to build the structure.
- Building code is updated every three years by city and implemented every six years.
- Codes adhered to include ICC, IRC (Residential Code), IBC (Commercial Code), IEBC (Existing Building Code), and the A117.1-2009 (Accessibility Code).

V. Community Engagement Discussion (VanDyke)

A lot of conversations regarding how we can be fully engaged as a CODI body. Members are encouraged to attend, or even drop in on the Community Engagement meetings even if they can only attend for part of the meeting.

VI. Committee Reports for March 2021

Bylaws Committee:

Houston shared her gratitude for our CODI leadership and their dedication. Edits to the Bylaws include the following:

- Section 3.05 Removal of Members for Non-Attendance, this has been sent to legal.
- Serving seniors and veterans with disabilities has been added to the Bylaws.
- Added who is CODI, our purpose and a section describing and what we do.
- Clarification for the term "Member"
- Removal of members by petition.
- Wanted to get clarification on the Community Engagement Committee as we steer toward moving it to a standing committee. The definition of Community Engagement should come from the committee itself as opposed to the Bylaws Committee. We are

looking for that verbiage and language from you so we can make it a standing committee.

- Misha announced the Bylaws can be found at KnoxvilleTN.gov/CODI

Transportation Committee:

- Huang reported the mayor shared the meetings may be a blend of face to face as well as virtual.
- Miller shared the 2045 Mobility Plan from the TPO and asked that all CODI be involved however they are able, to help shape policy in the future.
- Cook provided an overview of the Southeast Region's recent focus groups on transit. The same problems still exist, lack of connected sidewalks, accessible bus stops and how they impact the independence of people with disabilities.
- Simmons received a one-month pass from KAT and will be using the system taking notes on where things are working well and where improvements are still needed.
- Sidewalks are a part of the transit system. If a sidewalk is cracked, missing a part or needs repair, anyone can report it by dialing 311. The sidewalks will be inspected and ranked for repair or replaced by City Engineering.

Membership Committee: (Did not meet but Davidson provided below updates)

- Davidson reported we have 7 proposed CODI applications for review so far. We are going to extend the submission deadline for another week. Once all the submissions have been received Misha will forward to the Membership Committee for review at the end of the month.
- We are hoping to have our decisions narrowed down by our next CODI meeting. CODI has eight vacant advisory board slots. If the advisory board has any specific questions you would like the Membership Committee to ask during the interview process, please forward to Misha.
- The Membership Committee discussed sending emails to members and ask if they want to take a break if they cannot make it to CODI meetings to evaluate the persons commitment and to make sure they want to be a part of CODI.

Community Engagement Committee:

- Monica met a person in the community who she felt would benefit from knowing about CODI. We have been discussing development of rack cards or business cards or something similarly small and simple that we can give out.
- Mayor Kincannon shared our seeking nominations on her social media.
- We will continue to reach out through social media and newsletters.
- Proposing we reach out to communications and asking if they could do a one-minute clip on “What is CODI? What is our Purpose? What does it mean to be a member? What does it mean being a committee member if you’re not a member?” This is another avenue we could use to encourage the community to be involved with CODI.
- Cook recommended the next meeting with Mayor Kincannon we do a Zoom meeting so that “ALL” of CODI can attend the meeting and not just the executive team.

VII. Strategic Plan Reports

Livability Committee:

- Mull shared how the committee is adding a signature line to the CODI Accessibility Checklist. The purpose is so area managers can voluntarily participate by either accepting or denying that the checklist being used at their facility or establishment.
- Mull and Misha also discussed the possibility of creating the Accessibility Checklist in an electronic format.

COVID-19 Committee:

Huang reported. There was discussion on how many people with disabilities have been able to get their vaccine. As a group, people with disabilities are in phase 1A1, bringing them to the top of the line.

- We checked with agencies who serve people with disabilities, they all have worked with the Knox County Health Dept and had vaccine clinics onsite. Colebrooke spoke about how well it worked out with Breakthrough.
- Monica shared about the deaf blind community and how they are working together with this population receiving the vaccine.
- When calling or going online to get the vaccine for another person there are questions that are asked specific to each individual’s qualifying conditions that must be known in order to set up an appointment.

Universal Design Committee:

- Discussed finding statistics on accessibility.
- Reported that we will soon have the AFCN data and tech report.
- Discussed Federal Fair Housing Act
- Discussed trying to engage with contractors who are willing to speak with us.
- Potential of attending Parade of Homes.
- What would we as a committee recommend to the City.

VIII. New Business: None

IX. Announcements and Public Forum: None

X. Adjourn Time: 6:09 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings/Reminders:

April 14, 2021	May 12, 2021
June 9, 2021	July 14, 2021
August 11, 2021	September 8, 2021
October 13, 2021	November 10, 2021
December 8, 2021	

This meeting and all communications between members is subject to the provisions of the Tennessee Open Meetings Act, TENN. CODE ANN. § 8-44-101, et seq.