

ADA Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday-August 29, 2022

Present: Bern and Dena (at City Hall Chambers)

Hillary, Ericka, and Marichel (via Zoom) also “Andrew Maine”

Bern: Call to order at 3:06 pm

Approval of April meeting minutes (since June’s meeting did not occur due to technical issues)

Motion to approve: Ericka; Seconded: Hillary

Bern listed some grievances.

- The accessible door to City Hall was turned off-should always be on.
- Door that leads to City Hall from elevator on Barre Opera House level was closed, should remain open and accessible.
- There are no signs leading to the elevator in City Hall. It is difficult to find the elevator, especially for first time visitors and those who are visually impaired.

At this time, the meeting was Zoom-bombed by “Andrew Maine” and we needed to sign out and restart the meeting

*More accessible bathrooms are needed on each level of City Hall

Dena said that the crosswalk sound near Dente’s and Mr Z’s is not working. Bern said she will follow up with Bill

Recruitment: Hillary said that Keri a SASH person, was trying to join our meeting but was unable to connect.

Bern updated the committee with communications she has had with city staff Jeff Bergeron and Rikk Taft. Jeff is the committee liaison to City Hall but has been unable to attend our meetings since the time change from the mornings to the afternoons. Rikk asked why are there all of these committees?

In response to why there is an ADA Committee, Ericka explained that the committee was created 10 years ago because every town/village was mandated to have an ADA Coordinator and every city had to have a transitional plan to make itself ADA compliant.

NOTE: Barre City does NOT have an ADA Coordinator, but rather a committee.

Marichel asked if the ADA committee could fall under or collaborate more with the Diversity & Equity Committee- or work more with other committees to fulfill the transitional plan and make the city more ADA compliant.

Bern suggested committee members check City Council minutes to get updated on what is currently happening. Minutes and video are available on the city website or by requesting them from City clerk Carol Dawes.

Discussion on what is our active purpose. Should we remain a committee or should we transition to a task force so we can meet more outside of city requirements? We will get more clarity into what the main differences are between a committee and task force.

It was suggested that it would be a good idea to invite the now town manager to a committee meeting.

Ericka will forward the Small Towns Guides for ADA Compliance that all towns are to follow. How far is Barre City into its transitional plan?

ADA committee meetings will return to monthly, rather than every other month.

Next meeting will be Monday, September 26, 3-4 pm and will be hybrid.

Motion to adjourn meeting: Marichel; Seconded: Dena

Meeting ended 4:07pm

Minutes taken by Marichel Vaught and submitted Aug. 31, 2022