

Commission for Accessibility
Special Meeting Minutes November 30, 2018
10:00a.m. Large Conference Room, Town Hall

Call to order 10:03

Commissioners Present: Don Ciota, Christina Calabro (left at 10:55), Sharol Signorelli (via phone 5:08), Tony Phillips.

Visitors (via phone): Ana Julian, David West, Valerie Fletcher (left at 10:50), Theresa McSorely all from IHCD

The Commission invited the guests from IHCD to join the meeting to provide an update on the plan for the first days for the ADA Self-Assessment.

Depth of the school visits related to "one of each kind"

Lengthy discussion on this topic. Teresa McSorley the IHCD consultant who lead this part of the ADA assessment provided an overview of their approach. They took a "representative view" approach due to their (self-imposed) time constraints. They surveyed the schools and adjoining areas during the week they came to town in September. The following school playgrounds were NOT surveyed: Scotts Ridge Middle School and VP Elementary School. Rationale provided for this approach is that the documented problems at the schools surveyed could be applied to the non-surveyed playgrounds. Commissioner Signorelli provided an overview of the differences and uniqueness of each of the playground. It was clear that the Commission and IHCD are not in agreement on this approach. There was a discussion on the base bid details of the contract and whether or not it is being fulfilled. Commissioner Calabro inquired if the correspondence that Tony Philipps sent via email on November 1 titled "*Following up photos and write-ups*" that included a link to a photo gallery had been reviewed by the team. The IHCD confirmed they did not and said they would. There was discussion and agreement on IHCD coming back for a two-day site visit: one

day dedicated to visit more classrooms inside the schools; the second day to visit space outside the school buildings (pathways, playgrounds). Ms. McSorely stated that the school reports are all finished and pending internal IHCD review.

Open Space Review

We discussed open space as an open item. Valerie suggested that their company has great experience working with thousands of acres of land. She described that their team would not be able to review our expansive open space.

Tony suggested that he had been given prior advice to select

- 1) locations that are standard/representative of our open space
 - 2) make sure they are easily reachable
 - 3) make sure they can be reasonably accommodated
 - 4) make sure we include any sites of high interest.
- He also stated that in his mind open space is different than trails, is different than the rail trail. It would be helpful for IHCD to help define how open space/trails/rail trail all play in together, so that our program in its entirety is accessible. His expectation is that IHCD can help provide a narrative and a limited review to determine how best to handle these sites. As well it would be helpful to understand whether creating accessible trails for 100 yards would be acceptable, vs 1/4 mile of accessible trails.

11:25, Adjourn

C. Calabro, Secretary with assistance from S. Signorelli, T. Phillips