

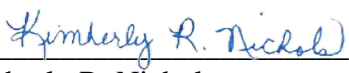
RESOLUTION NO. 3052

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City of Salisbury, Maryland that the following individual is appointed to the Disability Advisory Committee, for the term ending as indicated.

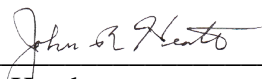
<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Ending</u>
Adith Thummalapalli	August 2023

THE ABOVE RESOLUTION was introduced and duly passed at a meeting of the Council of the City of Salisbury, Maryland held on August 10, 2020.

ATTEST:



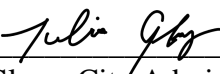
Kimberly R. Nichols
CITY CLERK



John R. Heath
PRESIDENT, City Council

APPROVED BY ME THIS

____ 17 ____ day of August 2020



Julia Glanz, City Administrator, for and
with the authority of Jacob R. Day, Mayor



MEMORANDUM

To: Julia Glanz, City Administrator
From: Julie English, Administrative Assistant III
Subject: Appointment to the Disability Advisory Committee
Date: August 17, 2020

The following person has applied for appointment to the Disability Advisory Committee for the term ending as indicated:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Ending</u>
Adith Thummalapalli	August 2023

Attached you will find information from Adith Thummalapalli and the resolution necessary for her appointment. If you approve of this appointment, I will forward this information to the City Council so it may be placed on their agenda for the next Council meeting. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Attachments

July 27, 2020

Greetings, members of the Disability Advisory Committee,

My name is Adith Thummalapalli and I am a recent graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. I am also an individual with a physical disability, Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy, which has required me to use a power wheelchair since I was 10. Additionally, I interned for the Office of the Mayor in the summer of 2018. When I was a student at Maryland, I was heavily involved with advocacy centered around improving inclusion and access for students with disabilities on the university campus and want to continue that sort of work in a more public sense, now that I have graduated.

One of the projects that I worked on as a student, which best represents my approach to advocacy, was the creation of a document called the 2019 Campus Accessibility Report. This report was intended to bring attention to some of the shortcomings related to ADA compliance and disability inclusion on the College Park campus. This was done through a comprehensive review of ADA standards in the context of a college campus, a collection of student testimonials, and photographic evidence identifying problem areas. The report outlined the current state of affairs, described what an ideal situation would look like, and proposed what a possible solution to move from the current state to the ideal state might look like. This report was sent to the Office of the President and university administrators began to actually address the concerns outlined in the report.

The report was mainly informational but also provided actionable input for university administration, both of which I believe were strengths of the report. As an advocate, I try to avoid placing blame on any particular entity for any areas of improvement that are discussed and prefer to stick only to facts that can be supported by clear evidence. However, I do think it is important to hold some entity accountable for addressing the areas of improvement and following up with those entities, to make sure progress is being made. As a result of the Accessibility Report, the President's Commission on Disability Issues (PCDI), a group with a similar set of responsibilities to this Disability Advisory Committee, approached me about working with them and helping establish a student group to work towards improving disability inclusion. My subsequent work with the PCDI and other organizations is described more in detail in my attached resume.

This brings me to why I want to join the Disability Advisory Committee for the City of Salisbury. Just like I was able to make a meaningful and lasting impact on the campus of my alma mater, I want to make an impact on the city I have called home for most of my life. Salisbury is a rapidly growing city and has reinvented itself for the better in the past decade, and I am proud to say that I am from Salisbury. However, as a citizen of Salisbury who also has a disability, I have personally noticed many things that could be improved to make the city much more accessible for people of all abilities. I want to help push for those improvements to better the lives of the current residents and any future residents of Salisbury. Additionally, I feel that my prior experience being on an advisory committee related to disability inclusion, albeit on a smaller scale on a college campus, would make me a helpful addition to the team. Thank you all for your time and for your consideration!

Warm Wishes,

Adith Thummalapalli

ADITH KUMAR THUMMALAPALLI

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<https://www.linkedin.com/in/adith-thummalapalli-100equestrian11209/>

PAST WORK

University of Maryland 2019 Campus Accessibility Report (CAR)

College Park, MD

Author

Mar. 2019 – Apr. 2019

- Wrote a 23-page report intended to bring attention to the shortcomings related to ADA compliance and disability inclusion present on the University of Maryland, College Park campus.
- Conducted comprehensive research into the standards outlined by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, in the context of a university campus, and collected student testimonials and photographic evidence of barriers to access.
- Detailed the current state of affairs, explained the ideal best-case scenario, and proposed solutions to move from the current state to the ideal state for five main problem areas identified by students.
- Received the endorsement of the Student Government Association (SGA) for the report and submitted the report to the University of Maryland President's Office.

Student Advisory Committee to the President's Commission on Disability Issues (PCDI)

College Park, MD

Founding Member

Apr. 2019 – Present

- Worked with the faculty co-chairs of the PCDI establish a corresponding student advisory committee to better address the accessibility concerns of the student body.
- Helped establish the mission and responsibilities of the committee: to provide a public forum for individuals with disabilities to express their concerns and to advise and provide actionable input for the PCDI.
- Created an online form for the campus community to express concerns for the committee to address.
- Set the agendas for the monthly meetings and moderated open forum discussions.
- Worked with other student committee members on various projects dedicated to improving disability inclusion and access on campus and in the surrounding city of College Park.

Delta Alpha Pi (DAPI) National Honor Society, Gamma Rho Chapter

College Park, MD

Vice President

May 2019 – May 2020

- Assisted the president with day-to-day tasks associated with running the honor society and supporting the academic success of students with disabilities.
- Worked with the faculty head of the Accessibility and Disability Service (ADS) Office to identify areas of improvement to provide better academic services and accommodations for students.
- Carried out public outreach tasks to spread awareness about DAPI through tabling at campus events and running the organization's Facebook and Instagram pages.
- Worked with the DAPI student executive board to plan the virtual induction ceremony in April for the 2020 inductees.

University of Maryland ADA 30th Anniversary Event

College Park, MD

Member of Planning Committee

Jun. 2020

- Helped plan a webinar discussing the work of disability activist Judith Heumann to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the passage of the ADA.
- Assisted with logistical tasks for the event and developing a graphic to advertise the event on social media.
- Conducted a live, hour-long interview with Mrs. Heumann focused on her involvement with disability activism in the past and her personal vision for the future, for an audience of approximately 400 people.

CURRENT AND ONGOING WORK

President's Commission on Disability Issues (PCDI)

College Park, MD

Alumni Member and Student Committee Liaison

Jun. 2020 - Present

- Serving as one of the advisors to the student advisory committee and working with the student representatives to communicate their ideas to the rest of the PCDI.
- Drafting a statement to the newly appointed President of the University of Maryland, Dr. Darryll J. Pines, outlining the recommendations PCDI has for improving disability inclusion and accessibility on campus.
- Drafting an Accessibility Report Update to describe to the campus community what actions have been taken by the university to address the concerns outlined in the 2019 CAR.

Department of Student Affairs 2020 Fall Welcome - Disability Affinity Spaces Project

College Park, MD

Member and Alumni Representative for Mobility-Related Affinity Space

Present

- Working with a team of students and faculty from the Dept. of Student Affairs to provide virtual Zoom spaces for incoming students with disabilities to network with other students having similar disabilities to their own, in an effort to get them involved with the advocacy work being done at Maryland and empower them to do more.

Adapting Courses to Maximize Accessibility Project

College Park, MD

Advisory Board Member

Present

- Working with a team of students and two professors to adapt an existing course offered in the School of Public Health (HLTH 364) to serve as an example of how to incorporate disability inclusion and universal access into course design.
- Helping to create new content intended to teach students in the course how to spread information in a manner that is accessible to people of all abilities.