**Disabilities Advisory Committee**

**Thursday, May 13, 2016**

**Meeting Minutes**

**3:00-4:00pm**

**In Attendance: Absent:**

Tim Meagher Michelle Odom

Laurie Andrews Stephen Hause

Julia Glanz

Greg Tyler

Mike Dyer

Jack Heath (Council Representative)

The meeting was opened and past meeting minutes were approved.

Jack Heath introduced himself as the Council representative to this committee. He was previously an appointed member of this committee. Jack let the group know that the new name, Disability Advisory Committee had been approved by Council. With this new name comes new expectations. The Mayor and Council would like this Committee to take a more proactive approach like other committees, including the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Park & Rec Committee, etc, with the goal of forwarding recommendations to the Mayor and Council.

The group welcomed our newest member Mike Dyer from United Needs and Abilities.

Jack called for nominations of the Committee’s new chair. The group decided to do another membership push before the September meeting to have a full board with active members. Currently the Committee has five members with two more seats available. Laurie will reach out to Robin Hall at K&L Microwave. Tim will reach out to Amy at BISM. Jack will work with Pepsi to find a new representative. Mike will speak with Barbara Bell and Stephen Bullock from WCBOE.

The group then reviewed major changes that need to be in place by 2019 that will effect organizations that provide support and house citizens with disabilities. These changes are coming down from the Federal Government and the State. The group discussed how to help make these changes as smooth as possible, as there are concerns with the current plan.

For the next meeting the group discussed reviewing the Committees portion of the City website, reviewing how many people within City Government self-identify as disabled, and to discuss future goals.

**Next meeting dates:**

September 8th 3:00 PM

December 8th 3:00 PM