



**City of Salisbury**  
**DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 9, 2023**

**Committee Members Present**

Adith Thummalapalli  
Greg Tyler  
Ivy McIntyre  
Michelle Hahn  
Katherine Jones  
Jeremy Wolfer

**Members Absent**

Cody Drinkwater  
Amy Crouse

**In Attendance**

Jessie Turner, Mayor's Office Administrative Assistant, City of Salisbury  
Murtaza Aqil, City of Salisbury Intern  
Jake Goodman—SU Student; CADR Graduate Assistant  
Brittany Fouts—SU—UN Director

**Call to Order**

- The Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) Meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm by Adith.

**Introduction**

**Last Meeting Minutes Review**

- Motion by Greg and seconded by Ivy to review and approve the meeting minutes from December 2022. The minutes were reviewed and approved unanimously.

**Progress Reports**

- **Bag Ban:** DAC will be in collaboration with the Green Team in regard to reusable bags. Adith spoke with Elise (Green Team Chairperson), and the team is on board with ideas of handing out bags that are good for people with disabilities. Feedback was that it would be helpful to share via social media images of the bag that will be distributed. Katherine commented that she has contacted an agency that has specially designed bags for wheelchairs and will see what they can send. She also contacted the MD Department of Disabilities and they will be designing bags for walkers and wheelchairs. Adith suggested making a list of events at which bags can be distributed. Ivy said she could host an event at Lower Shore Enterprises. Katherine indicated that Bay Area can also help distribute. Distribution and timing will depend on how soon the bags are available.
- **Re-Write of By-Laws:** In 2-3 weeks the bylaw draft will be ready for another round of review and will be sent out for committee feedback.

- **Citizen Concern**—Shore Transit: Adith talked to Shore Transit (Sharon Jones). He emailed a month ago and has not heard back but will continue to follow up. Greg commented that the lack of response could be because of the State of Emergency. Jeremy asked if there is someone else we could talk with and Jake (SU student) recommended taking the situation up the chain of command to Mayor and/or County Executive. He believes we could be facing a situation where Shore Transit has biased individuals or does not pay attention to the needs presented by the Disability Advisory Committee. Katherine presented the idea of switching terminal locations.
- Ramp Project—Ron will provide an update at the next meeting

### **Open Discussion**

- Accessible Housing Incentive Proposal—Adith—Fair Housing Agreement states 5% of housing units should be ADA accessible. Katherine stated that Bay Area has 20 acres on which accessible housing could be built and Mike added that there could be a “community settings” rule. Adith asked the committee how we could incentivize developers to want to build, and Mike recommended asking a developer what would cause them to want to build accessible housing. The discussion turned to vouchers and how and for what they can be used.
- Assisted Loan Program—Katherine will give a full presentation next time, but for now there is information available on the Bay Area website. The loan is not up to 70K with 3% interest and can be used for home and vehicle modifications.

### **Agency Updates**

- Mike is retiring on May 5, 2023.

### **Next Meeting Date**

- Thursday, June 8, 3:00 pm in GOB 306

### **Adjournment**

- The DAC meeting was adjourned at 4:03 pm.

**Minutes Recorded By:** Jessie Turner, City Liaison for the Disability Advisory Committee