



Minutes
Benton County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee (ACAC)
Monday, October 1, 2018

The first meeting of the newly formed Benton County Accessible Community Advisory Committee was held at 3:30 pm on Monday, October 1, 2018, at the Richland Library. Present at the meeting were committee members Brenda Chilton (County Auditor), Shyanne Faulconer (Commissioners' Office), Kyle Bosley, Teresa Payne, and Matt Nash. Also in attendance was Amanda Garcia from the Benton County Election Department.

Introductions were made, and attendees were asked to sign in. Announcement of the members not present was made to let everyone know of all appointed members.

The committee viewed the Attorney General's recommended video on Open Public Meetings.

It was determined that a quorum of members was not present, and that formal action could not be taken.

Brenda led the conversation by addressing the items on the agenda. The committee discussed the need to establish an ACAC plan and a draft plan was distributed. It was agreed the Plan would be sent to all committee members for review and potential adoption at the next meeting.

Discussion was held about the need to elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the Committee. Brenda asked if anyone had any interest in being Chair or Vice-Chair. Matt mentioned that it would be a good idea if one member from the County and one member from the public be considered as Chair and Vice Chair. Brenda mentioned she would consider being Chair for one year and Matt stated that he might be interested in Vice Chair. Discussion will be continued to the next meeting to allow for a quorum

The committee discussed when to meet and how often. Brenda expressed a preference to keep the meetings to an hour in length, modifying as necessary if speakers are invited. Shyanne agreed that if meetings go longer than an hour, the committee should meet more often. There was a consensus the next meeting would be held Wednesday, November 14th at 3:30 at the Benton County Justice Center. Amanda will reserve a room and send out meeting notices to everyone. Matt suggested meeting monthly or quarterly. Brenda suggested that meetings for now would be held every 6 weeks to begin with then move to quarterly. Further discussion and a final determination will be held for the next meeting when a quorum is present.

The last two items on the agenda were "What is our mission?" and "What do we want to accomplish?" Matt expressed that his goals are dependent on the mission of the committee. Teresa

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expressed her concerns with the Benton Franklin Transit (BFT) and how they are having fewer and fewer night runs. It was discussed that a representative from BFT would be contacted and asked to possibly present to the committee the different services available for the disabled community. Matt said he would reach out to his contact through BFT.

Brenda stated that some of her ideas included to look at accessibility in elections and see where we can improve, as well as provide demonstrations of improvements in the new tabulation system. Plans will be made to bring in one of the accessible voting machines in for demonstrations after the General Election.

Teresa mentioned how she liked the talking crosswalk signs and would like to see more of them around the Tri-Cities.

Focus for the next meeting will be to finish up the remaining agenda items from this meeting and possibly take actions on agenda items. Recommendations for the next agenda included:

- Presentation by BFT on accessibility
- Coliseum is not ADA accessible – who to contact and where to start a conversation on possible improvements
- Outreach to the ESD for accessibility services

Amanda will send out meeting notices to all committee members for the next meeting along with the minutes from 10/1/18.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm