

Arkansas City Equal Opportunity and Accessibility Advisory Board

11/18/2021 Minutes

A regular meeting was held **Thursday, November 18, 2021**, at the Water Treatment Facility. Meeting called to order at **4:10 p.m.**

Roll Call:

Board Members

Bob Baker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ethan Bartlett	<input type="checkbox"/>
JoAnn Bierle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
James Fry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Anita Judd-Jenkins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tammy Lanman-Henderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Frances "Rags" Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Staff Liaisons

Mike Bellis	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mike Crandall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Randy Frazer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Andrew Lawson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Marla McFarland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Larry Schwartz	<input type="checkbox"/>
Josh White (<i>via GoToMeeting</i>)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. Approve August Regular Meeting Minutes:

Rags made a motion to approve the minutes of the **August 12, 2021**, regular meeting as written. James seconded the motion, which was approved **4-0** on a voice vote. Bob joined the meeting in progress at **4:24 p.m.** and Anita joined at **4:27 p.m.**

2. Comprehensive Plan Discussion:

Andrew and Josh wrapped up final discussion on the relevant sections of the Comprehensive Plan. Among goals discussed:

- Some new language about promoting diversity, equity and inclusivity, especially on City boards and in City hiring.
- Helping to build civic education and awareness, including improved voter turnout, among the entire population.
- Making ADA improvements and compliance an **extremely high and urgent** priority in future budgeting processes.
- Recommending the Neighborhood Services Division be authorized to budget for ADA and sidewalk improvements.

Proposed metrics could include a goal to have the composition of Board membership better match the Census after five years.

Andrew suggested possible future joint meetings with the Winfield Human Relations Commission and Winfield housing board.

The Board also expressed interest in meeting with the City Commission during a future study session to discuss their concerns.

3. EOAAB Authorizing Ordinance:

Andrew said three Board members met with City Attorney Larry Schwartz in October for an informal discussion of the Board's authorizing ordinance and challenges. (There was not a quorum present at this meeting so no minutes were kept.)

4. Review Title VI Plan Update:

Mike provided an overview of the City's current Title VI documents, which he had to update recently. All of these are available on the City website, including the Title VI Policy, Public Participation Plan, Limited English Proficiency Plan, Complaint Form and Equal Opportunity Brochure. These have to be on file with the Kansas Department of Transportation to ensure the City complies with all federal and state requirements on construction projects that receive federal and state funds.

5. Sidewalk Survey Project:

Andrew showed the Board an online web form Josh developed through which people can report sidewalk problems or needs.

The Board discussed assigning one section to each member and having them function as a "captain" or point of contact for it.

6. Other Miscellaneous Items:

The next regular 2022 Tacolalah Executive Committee meeting is at **noon December 16** at the Water Treatment Facility.

Andrew updated the Board on the current status of the CDBG housing rehabilitation project in northwest Arkansas City.

Anita made a motion to adjourn the meeting. James seconded the motion, which was approved **6-0** on a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at **5:35 p.m.** The next meeting of the Equal Opportunity and Accessibility Advisory Board will be at **4 p.m. Dec. 9, 2021.**