

Disability Service Committee

Meeting: HSS 3026

March 14, 2017

Present:

LaQuita Saunders, Chair

Vera Forrest

Vaneta Harvey

William Hall

Dong Li

Absent:

Amy Privett

Dave McKinney

Jenifer Rice-Mason

Madison Hill

Michael Frederic

LISA A. OCHS

Maurice Gipson

Anita Marshall

Kayliann Weber

Teresa Fisher

LaQuita Saunders, Chair called the meeting to order at 2:08.

LaQuita asked that we dispense with the reading of the minutes, because they had not been sent to her.

Old Business:

A. Transportation issue:

Bill Hall reported that David Handwork is still working on funding for an accessible van for the University. Budget meetings will be held at A-State soon.

B. Service Animal Policy:

No report at this time

C. Theater in Fowler Center:

Bill Hall reported: A consulting firm assessed the accessibility problem at the Fowler Center. According to their report the theater cannot be accessible to wheelchair user. However, Bill and his crew have developed a plan to provide seating for wheelchair users and their companions. Their plan is to take out enough seats for 2 wheelchairs and companion seating at the landing between sections and to provide enough space to comply with ADA code on the landing. The seats in the back row of the first section will have to be moved forward so they will not encroach on the landing width. Project may be done during summer because new carpet will be installed during this process.

LaQuita asked that tickets for this row of seating not be released to the public until approximately 1 hour before event starts, so people with disabilities will be able to get seating for any event in the theater.

D. A curb cut is needed at the end of the route from the blue entrance of the Convocation Center across Alumni Boulevard, traveling along the sidewalk by Judd Hill and Pavilion to the parking lot of Centennial Bank Stadium. Bill Hall will take care of the curb cuts.

- E. LaQuita Saunders proposed developing a new policy for events in accessible venues. A committee will be formed to write this policy. LaQuita shared an example of NC State University's policy.

New Business:

- A. LaQuita reported on the new Arkansas State University Climate Council established by Dr. Doug Whitlock. Everyone except someone with a disability had been asked to serve on the Council. LaQuita emailed Dr. Whitlock and expressed her concerns on this matter. Dr. Whitlock apologized for overlooking people with disabilities and will add someone to represent persons with disabilities.
- B. Bill Hall reported on the Kays House revocation on campus. Entrance will be through the back, because the parking is in the back. All programs will be held on the 1st floor which is accessible. Personal offices will be upstairs. The back hall way is very large and a section will be used for an ADA restroom. Delta By-Ways will make the Kays House home for their programs.
- C. The curb cut at the Red Wolf Center is not visible at night. Bill Hall will look into this problem. A service truck was parked on the walk by Fine Arts after 5:00 p.m. making it difficult to get into the S-17 lot for disability parking spaces. Bill Hall will report to David Handwork.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.