



STATE OF WASHINGTON

GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY ISSUES AND EMPLOYMENT

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**Accessible Communities (AC) Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2023, 4:30-5:30 pm**

1. AC Subcommittee Member Roll Call:

Warren Weissman, Chair; Clarence Eskridge, Vice-Chair; Lucy Barefoot, Dave Carl, Damiana Harper, GCDE Chair; Autumn Harris, and Steve Lewis. Guest: Angie West.

Absent: Cullyn Foxlee

Staff: Elaine Stefanowicz, Program Coordinator

2. Approval of July Meeting Minutes. Approved as written.

3. Comments on Thurston County election center visit. Steve visited the Ballot Processing Center in Thurston County and was given a tour by Auditor Mary Hall. He said it was timed well because it was during an election primary, so they were counting votes. He said he came out feeling more secure about voting. There were only two disability parking spaces that were a challenge to find. Elaine will check if other AC members could visit during the election in November.

4. Status of draft AC financial report: A report will be developed showing that OFM authorizes AC to disburse up to \$200,000 per fiscal year from the AC Account (based on the average of what flows into the account each year from parking fines). We deduct GCDE expenses from that (staff salaries and reasonable accommodation expenses) and amounts for ACAC reasonable accommodations and other expenses (currently, \$2,000 x 14 counties = \$28,000). The remaining amount is what we have available for grants—divided for spring and fall awards, subject to identifying the treatment of grants made in prior fiscal years, but not yet having contracts). Elizabeth said we haven't received our budget for this year yet but can base a financial report on last year's expenses and grants that are still pending.

5. Status of approved grants with pending contracts or other issues delaying implementation:

a. Elaine shared her contract spreadsheet.

b. The AC subcommittee previously approved a change for Kitsap County's approved adaptive bike grant proposal. The City of Poulsbo will now be managing the bikes, instead of the county Parks Department. Warren and Elaine talked with Kitsap County ACAC and confirmed the grant funds will be used for paying direct project costs only. \$1,000 is for legal costs to develop waivers and other documents, and \$10,000 will pay for a Poulsbo city parks employee who will be setting up the program to check out bikes and do equipment maintenance.

6. Timetable for Fall grants: Oct. 31st is the deadline. Elaine emailed the county ACAC our new funding procedures. December meeting is likely when we will vote on the grants depending how many receive.

7. Warren's second term is ending December 31, 2023. If anyone is interested in being the AC chairperson, let Warren or Damiana know. Ideally, a future chair would begin to co-chair the AC subcommittee in 2023.

**Next AC Subcommittee Meeting:
September 20, 2023, at 4:30 pm**