

**CITY OF FISHERS  
FISHERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY  
LAUNCH FISHERS HUSTON THEATER  
MINUTES  
September 6, 2022**

**The meeting of the Fishers Advisory Committee on Disability convened at 5:47 p.m.**

A roll call was taken. Members present: Cecilia Coble, Kelly Hartman, Wilbur Sutton, Stacey Oldham, Darcy Keith, Chrissy Pogue, Michelle Steltz, Shelby Slowik and Ross Hilleary. Also present: Megan Vukusich, Kelly Lewark, Tracy Gaynor, John Mehling, Heather French, Susan Elsworth, Brenna French, Jason French, Leslie Brown, Caitlin Lane and Dustin Thevenow.

**Ms. Oldham made a motion to approve the April 2022 and June 2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Pogue. The motion passed 9-0.**

To view the presentation slides of the topics discussed below, click [here](#).

**1. Guest Speakers**

**a. Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders - Brenna French and Susan Elsworth**

Brenna is a HSE junior who is diagnosed with FASD. She shared her story about living with FASD to bring awareness to the disorder. She also shared that September 9<sup>th</sup> is FASD Awareness Day. Susan Elsworth works with the Indiana Alliance on Prenatal Substance Exposure. She provided more information on the disorder and shared resource information.

<https://inalliancepse.org/>

[selsworth@mhai.net](mailto:selsworth@mhai.net)

(317) 638-3501 ext. 1268

Other resources: FASD united, The ARC, Indiana Family to Family

**b. Smart 911 – John Mehling, Captain, Fishers Fire Department**

The City of Fishers utilizes Smart 911, a free information sharing app to view emergency information for all residents of the city, allowing emergency responders the ability to have valuable information at their fingertips as they are en route to your emergency. This system replaces the previous Special Needs Registry. To register, click [here](#).

Additional questions? Contact Captain Mehling at (317) 595-3208 or [mehlingj@fishers.in.us](mailto:mehlingj@fishers.in.us)

**2. Committee Updates**

**a. Accessibility & Transportation – Stacey Oldham** - nothing specific to report but activities are underway to report later

**i. Fishers 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary [Time Capsule](#)**

Stacey is looking for ideas on what the disability community can contribute to the time capsule. What does disability look like now and in the future? Megan Vukusich will check on the size of the time capsule.

**b. Housing – Wilbur Sutton** – Wilbur is serving on the Hamilton County Housing Collaborative. They are looking at other cities on how they deal with housing and collecting resources.

**c. Employment – Chrissy Pogue and Michelle Steltz**

**i. October Disability Employment Awareness Month**

Hosting a reverse job fair October 7<sup>th</sup>. The event is being finalized and instructions on how to register will be shared through social media and other avenues. They are looking for food donations for the employers. Approximately 20 employers/20 job seekers. They would also like to host a morning session in March. The employers need to be in Fishers but job seekers do not have to be from Fishers. They are also looking at restarting the business network group.

**d. Community Supports & Services – Kelly Hartman**

- i. Indiana State Transition Plan will become effective on March 17, 2023 and will impact all services.
- ii. The State Legislative session is a budget session, a lot of issues coming up in session. Get involved and advocate!
- iii. The Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services is offering “seed grants” for up to \$50,000 for individual agencies or collaborations to develop pilot projects to better support people in services. Due date 09/30/2022
- iv. Outside The box – fundraiser September 16<sup>th</sup> at The LUME, [www.otbonline.org](http://www.otbonline.org)

**e. Recreation/Arts & Culture – Shelby Slowik** - Conner Prairie will partner with Fishers Arts Council again in March to host an arts event on a Friday evening – date TBD. She also reminded everyone that Conner Prairie has sensory friendly hours, quiet spaces available, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, 10am-12pm. The Apple Store is opening this weekend – 9/9-9/11

**f. Networking/Social Opportunities – Darcy Keith** – Darcy shared some activities happening with the Aktion Club and Thrive. She normally posts events on her Facebook page. Megan Vukusich reminded the committee that events can be submitted to the Fishers Community Calendar. Find the link to the calendar, [here](#). There is a new subcommittee member. Looking to connect Best Buddies with Thrive.

**g. Update from staff on gathering outside of scheduled committee meetings – Megan Vukusich**  
Subcommittee meetings with 2 or more people need noticed 48 hours prior to meeting. Give Megan or Ross notice.

**3. Staff Communications**

- a. Accessible Housing Study Update – Megan stated we are awaiting data from the State but she will give a quick summary. Refer to the presentation slides linked above for more info.
- b. Fishers Sesquicentennial Celebration & Fall Events - [Fall Events](#)
- c. 2023 Fishers Advisory Committee on Disability Events Discussion - City will support up to four events annually including March Disability Awareness Month, including the Kick-off and My Point of View Day
  - Meeting for MDAM planning scheduled for 9/14 11:30-12:30pm at Chicagos Pizza in Fishers
  - Sharing ideas for theme, kick-off speaker, etc.

**4. Upcoming Event Announcements**

- a. **Fishers Health Department Caregiver Support Group – [Flyer](#)**
  - Meets Every Second Tuesday of the month from 5 – 6 PM at the Nickel Plate District Pavilion, 10 Municipal Drive Fishers, IN 46038
- b. **March Disability Awareness Month Planning Meeting**
  - Wednesday, September 14, 2022, from 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM at Chicago’s Pizza, 13204 Market Square Drive Fishers, IN 46038
- c. **Reverse Job Fair**
  - Friday, October 7, 2022 from 11:30 AM – 2 PM for employers and 12:30 PM – 2 PM for potential employees, Grace Fishers Church, 12450 Olio Road Fishers, IN 46037

- d. Harvest Fest hosted by Fishers Parks Foundation and Fishers Arts Council**
  - Sunday, September 11, Noon – 5 PM, Heritage Park at White River
- e. Same As U Golf Tournament**
  - Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Pebble Brook Golf Club
- f. Outside The Box/Inside the Bottle at LUME at Newfields**
  - Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm
- g. Help Over Hurdles Cornhole Tournament**
  - September 13<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm
- h. Special Needs Living Empowerment Day**
  - September 17<sup>th</sup>, 1-5pm, White River Christian Church
- i. Launch Into Life - Autism Society of Indiana**
  - September 6<sup>th</sup>, 4-5:30pm, virtual

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 6, 2022, 5:30 PM at Launch Fishers Huston Theater