Burlington Advisory Committee on Accessibility

November 20th, 2023

3-4 PM

Introduction and Event Recap

- The meeting began with a recap of the recent Oakledge Park Accessible Playground Opening Event, organized by the committee.
- Attendees discussed the overall success of the event and highlighted positive aspects.
- Accessibility features provided at the event, such as ramps and mats, were discussed.
- Concerns about the difficulty of getting a kayak on wheels to the water were raised, especially with the sandy bottom at the end of the ramp.
- Participants suggested future ideas for improving accessibility at the waterfront, including modifications to the ramp and exploring new equipment like access tracks.
- The issue of scheduling interpreters for events was raised, emphasizing the need for more advanced notice.

Feedback and Concerns

- Participants shared their experiences and concerns related to the event.
- Some attendees raised the need for better communication about accommodation options for blind and deaf individuals.
- A suggestion was made to conduct surveys among blind and deaf-blind communities to gather feedback on event accessibility.
- Concerns were expressed about the lack of representation of people with disabilities at the event.
- The challenge of arranging interpreters on short notice was acknowledged, and the importance of more advanced scheduling was emphasized.
- Participants discussed the need to make information about interpreter scheduling more accessible and prominent.

Future Goals and Closing Remarks

- The committee addressed plans for the upcoming year, brainstorming goals for 2024.
- Suggestions were made to focus on improving accessibility in the Church Street area, including audio signals at crosswalks.
- The idea of celebrating the installation of the tactile sign at the waterfront in spring 2024 was proposed.
- The need to send updates and newsletters to the Mayor's office was emphasized to keep stakeholders informed.
- Participants were encouraged to come prepared to the next meeting with ideas for committee goals in the upcoming year.
- The meeting concluded on a positive note, with expressions of appreciation for the committee's work and anticipation for future initiatives.