

Ability Awareness Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on
September 7, 2021

**Village of Homer Glen
14240 W 151st Street, Homer Glen, IL 60491
Village Board Room**

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Nicole LaHa

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Roll Call was taken by Matt Walsh at 6:35 p.m.:

Ability Awareness Committee	Title	Attendance
Nicole LaHa	Chairperson	Present
Christina Neitzke-Troiike	Committee Member	Present
Karen Adamczyk	Committee Member	Present
Heather Bleck	Committee Member	Present
Angela McKenna	Committee Member	Present
Robert O'Connor	Committee Member	Present
James Cronos	Committee Member	Present
Matthew Walsh	Village Manager	Present
Stacy Patrianakos	Staff Liaison	Not Present

4. Approval of Amendments to the Agenda

- There were not amendments

5. Approval of Minutes

- Revise IDP to IEP in section 9 of minutes.
- Member Neitzke-Troiike motioned to approve, Member O'Connor 2nd.
 - The motion was passed unanimously.

6. Public Comment.

- No comments

7. Reports and Communication

A. Report from Chair LaHa:

- Photo challenge winner, Bob Szajkovics was unable to attend tonight however will be available to attend next week.

B. Report from Village Manager Walsh

- Nothing to report

C. Report from Village Clerk Neitzke-Troiike

- Reviewed the process and timeline around how the Disney pop tab winner was notified and thanked the committee.

D. Report from Member Adamczyk

Member Adamczyk contacted Homer Township and advised committee that there is a shed of supplies for people with disabilities at the Township. Chairperson LaHa shared that shed contained; toilet seat, 1 set of crutches, 1 shower bench, 1 transfer bench, a walker and a wheelchair. The committee would like to research space availability within the Village to create a Village resource closet. Member Adamczyk discussed volunteer opportunities for a fundraiser being held at Shady Oaks Camp and member Beck reminded committee that H.S. students are always looking for opportunities to fulfill hours needed to graduate.

E. Report from Member O'Connor:

- Recommended that the committee recognize teachers that go above and beyond the call of duty in order to create a more inclusive environment for students with different abilities. Member O'Connor continues to research the ID program and a suggestion was made to sponsor an informational event for parents and first responders.

F. Report from Member Crones:

- Member Crones provided a recap of Frankfort fest which had a number of special needs activities/areas including sensory artisans. Chairperson LaHa noted that her priority, in partnership with the Parks committee is to create a more inclusive area in Heritage Park.

G. Report from Member Bleck:

- Committee member Bleck noted that she is a sponsor for the Lockport H.S. best buddies' program. The program will be hosting their annual event at Konow's. The AAC agreed to volunteer at event which was tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, October 5th. Member Neitzke-Troiike will confirm that the event can be hosted on October 5th.

H. Report from Member McKenna:

- Nothing to report

8. Old Business.

- A. Chairperson LaHa advised the committee that the volunteer tab on the AAC landing page is live.
- B. Chairperson LaHa presented a hard copy of the resident survey that will be distributed to seniors. Member Neitzke-Troiike mentioned that the committee should consider participating at the Veteran's Day event scheduled for November 6th. This would be a great opportunity to educate and inform participants about the AAC and what it has to offer.
- C. Creating an AAC specific logo was previously discussed and Chairperson LaHa communicated that the AAC will be staying with the official Village logo. A customized logo will be created for t-shirts at a later date.

D. Business cards were ordered with official Village logo and based on membership Cronos suggestion keeping with the titles of members on business cards.

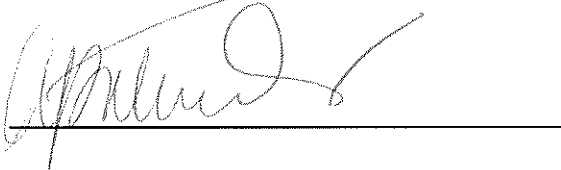
9. New Business.

- Chairperson LaHa noted that we will be substituting the October clean-up event with 2 Senior home visit events. The Committee agreed to decorate the 2 senior homes. The event will include fall décor along with a basket of the resident surveys.
- Chairperson LaHa stated that she has been in touch with numerous interested speakers to participate in Round-table Discussions. Round-tables will tentatively be scheduled starting January of 2022.

10. Adjournment.

- Chair LaHa motioned to adjourn, Member Adamczyk 2nd.

Respectfully Submitted:



Stacy Patrianakos
Human Resources Manager