



**New Albany Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) Implementation Panel  
August 8, 2024 Minutes**

The IDEA Implementation Panel met for the panel’s regularly scheduled session at the New Albany Village Hall, 99 W. Main Street, New Albany, Ohio and was called to order by Panel Chair Dr. Johnson at 7:04 p.m.

Those answering roll call:

Panel Chair Brianna Johnson	Present
Panel Vice-Chair Connor Berry	Present
Panel Member Marie Alvarado	Present
Panel Member Taru Saigal	Present
Council Member Marlene Brisk	Present
Council Member Andrea Wiltrout	Absent

Staff members present: Adrienne Joly, Director of Administrative Services and Chelsea Nichols, Planner II

Dr. Johnson asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the June 13, 2024 IDEA Panel meeting. Seeing none, Dr. Johnson moved to approve the meeting minutes from the June 13, 2024 IDEA Implementation Panel meeting. Seconded by Panel Member Berry and the IDEA Implementation Panel voted with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 0 abstentions to approve the meeting minutes.

Dr. Johnson asked if there were any visitors requesting to speak on items not on tonight’s agenda. Seeing no visitors, the hearing of visitors for items not on the agenda was closed.

**Business:**

***Juneteenth Recap:***

Director of Administrative Services Joly lead the discussion which included the following:

- The total budget was \$25,000 and the amount spent was \$24,076.48.
- Sponsors included Meta with \$5,000, Amgen with \$3,000, and Intel that is still TBD.
- The estimated attendance was 1,200 people.
- Planning included a focus group made up of 12 members.
- Things to consider next year include:
  - Potential layout changes
  - Having more t-shirts available for sale at the event
  - Would they consider a different venue?
  - Will they need more shaded areas?

***NA101 Reminder***

Director of Administrative Services Joly lead the discussion which included the following:

- The next NA101 event will be the New Albany Business Park Tours, which is to be held on Wednesday, August 21, 2024. The tours will be at 4pm, 5pm, and 6pm.
  - Volunteers needed. Can send panel members a sign-up sheet.
- Remaining 2024 NA101 Dates: Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> – Hinson Amphitheater tour.
  - Dr. Johnson suggested there be something to bring people out and draw people to be interested in attending the event.

### ***Diwali Planning***

Director of Administrative Services Joly lead the discussion which included the following:

- The first Focus Group meeting will be held on Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. There are thirteen members to do. Amgen has pledged \$3,000 in sponsorship money. The city has also received a grant in the amount of \$3,000 from the Greater Columbus Arts Council.
- More sponsorships are needed for the fireworks.
- Staff to talk to the Focus Group about the duration of the event.

### ***Community Connectors Update***

Director of Administrative Services Joly and Planner II Nichols lead the discussion which included the following:

- The city has began promoting the program. They have had a launch table at two Farmers Markets and two Summer Concerts. Promotion has also included info in the Connects Newsletter, a promotional video, and social media.
- City staff shared the webpage with the panel members.
- The plan moving forward is to hold an info session on September 10<sup>th</sup> for those interested in becoming a Community Connector to learn more about the program before submitting a formal application.
  - Panel members suggested the time frame be 5:30-7:30pm and that the info session not be mandatory in order for people to apply.
- In November the IDEA panel will review application and appoint Connectors.
- In December city staff will conduct the first Community Connectors training session.
- The goal is for the program to be up and running by January.
- Discussions regarding the “coffee table boo” or box or whatever the IDEA panel decides will resume in February. In the meantime, Connectors will be given informational door hangtags to distribute temporarily.

### ***Vision Impaired Ped Crossing***

Director of Administrative Services shared the city’s video regarding the newly installed audible pedestrian signals that assist residents with vision impairments.

### ***Accessible Ohio Conference***

Director of Administrative Services Joly and Planner II Nichols lead the discussion which included the following:

Three city staff members (Chelsea Nichols, Alonna Skinner, and Kate Smith) attended the Accessible Ohio Conference and Expo on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 from 8am-4pm at the OSU Fawcett Center. Some of the break out sessions included the following topics:

- Special Consideration for Emergency Situations
- Fostering Inclusivity: Sensory Integration at the Toledo Zoo
- Inclusive Learning: Hospitality Listens
- Accessible Downtown Areas in Suburban Communities
  - Common issues such as uneven sidewalks, no accessible parking, doorways too narrow, inaccessible restrooms
- Universal Design: Creating Accessible and Inclusive Communities
  - Design for all; Accessible design, Barrier-free design, Inclusive design, Transgender design, Equitable design

### ***2025 Planning***

Director of Administrative Services Joly lead the discussion on ideas for next year, which included the following:

- Young professions
- Accessibility Events

The September meeting will consist of heavy planning for 2025 in order to establish a plan prior to budget season.

### ***Openings on the Panel***

Planner II Nichols lead the discussion which included the following:

There are currently three openings for seats on the panel. Only one application has been submitted but it was from someone who lives outside of the city limits. Staff would encourage the panel members to reach out to those in the community that they might be interested. Staff will send panel members more information and the application link so that they can forward it onto to others.

### **Other Business:**

NONE

### **Adjournment:**

Dr. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Seconded by Panel Member Alvarado. All panel members were in favor.