



**New Albany Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) Implementation Panel
November 14, 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 7:00 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
Panel Member Courtney Nixon	Present
Panel Member Alex Bilchak	Absent
Panel Member Antonio Pestana	Present
Council Member Marlene Brisk	Present
Council Member Andrea Wiltrout	Present

Staff members present: Adrienne Joly, Director of Administrative Services
Abbey Brooks, Community Program Administrator
Chelsea Nichols, Planner II
Alonna Skinner, Community Program Specialist

Dr. Johnson asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the October 10, 2024 IDEA Panel meeting minutes. Seeing none, Panel Member Alvarado moved to approve the meeting minutes from the October 10, 2024 IDEA Implementation Panel meeting. Seconded by Panel Member Saigal and the IDEA Implementation Panel voted with 6 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:

Diwali Recap

Community Program Administrator Brooks lead the discussion regarding the Diwali recap:

- Under budget with the help of donations.
- Next year the event will be held on October 18th and perhaps from 6-8:30pm. Areas for improvement include:
 - The sparklers on stage did not work as planned. It was too light outside.
 - Marketing should start sooner. Get the word out to more residents in other ways than just through the Connects email and social media.
 - Marketing message should be done in a way so that people know everyone is welcome. Perhaps a video of different people talking about their experience. This could be paired with the announcement of the award and perhaps a combined video for Juneteenth.

Community Connectors Application Review

The panel members reviewed the 10 application forms. Panel Member Alvarado moved to appoint all 10 applicants to the position of a Community Connector. Seconded by Panel Member Berry and the IDEA Implementation Panel voted with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 0 abstentions to approve the motion.

2024 Annual review and 2025 Work Plan

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

- Panel members are to provide feedback on the 2024 Annual Review. They can email staff anything they wish to have added to the summary sections in the document regarding 2024 work. This could be lessons learned, things that went well, things to improve upon, and so forth.
- Panel members are to send staff ideas they have for Accessibility Initiatives in 2025. This could be things they have seen other communities and organizations do, something they are interested in, something they want to learn more about, and so forth.
- Panel members are interested in forming a focus group that can help workshop accessibility initiatives for 2025.

Other Business:

December 2024 Meeting

Panel Member Alvarado moved to cancel the December 2024 meeting. Seconded by Panel Member Saigal and the IDEA Implementation Panel voted with 6 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 0 abstentions to cancel the December 2024.

Adjournment:

Dr. Johnson adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:45 p.m. All panel members were in favor.