

# WALKABLE COMMUNITIES COALITION

---

## AGENDA

Tuesday, August 11, 2015  
12 Noon to 1 PM

disAbility Connections  
409 Linden Avenue

**MISSION:** To create an environment where it's easy to walk and bike for recreation, transportation, and health; and to educate and encourage citizens to be active.

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes of July 14, 2015 (enclosed)
  - a. Approval of Executive Committee Minutes of July 28, 2015 (enclosed)
4. Citizen Interaction Design Project Agreement (enclosed) – Scott TenBrink
5. Healthy Communities – Julie Weisbrod (*Light snack provided*)  
<http://mihealthtools.org/communities/default.asp?tab=preview>
6. Comments and/or Concerns from Members
7. Public Comment
8. Adjournment

**Next Meeting: September 8, 2015**  
**12 Noon to 1:00 PM**  
**disAbility Connections**

# WALKABLE COMMUNITIES COALITION

---

## MINUTES

Walkable Communities Coalition  
disAbility Connections  
409 Linden Avenue  
Jackson, Michigan

Tuesday, July 14, 2015 12:00 PM

### Members Present:

Alex Cash, Fitness Council of Jackson  
Simon Foster, JATA  
Stephen Hannon, Citizen  
Pete Jancek, Blackman Township  
Laurel Mauldin, Chair  
Susan Richardson, Region 2 Planning Commission  
Allyson Richmond, Jackson County Health Department  
Laura Schlecte, Jackson City Council  
Parrish Stahl, disAbility Connection  
Scott TenBrink – U of M  
Julie Weisbrod, Jackson County Health Department

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Mauldin called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Stephen Hannon introduced himself and stated he was back in Jackson for the time being.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 9, 2015**

The motion was made by Mr. Jancek, supported by Ms. Cash, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **COMPLETE STREETS TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Ten Brink reported that he met with Mr. Jancek, Ms. Mauldin and Ms. Cash to discuss whether to pursue getting an ordinance passed in the city. The team recommends to move forward with supporting and advocating the 2011 ordinance that was presented to the city. This ordinance would establish a continually updated non-motorized plan, require that all streets projects consider non-motorized opportunities, and appoint a local advisory group to review and comment on street projects. The bottom line is that a non-motorized plan needs to be in place.

# **WALKABLE COMMUNITIES COALITION**

---

## **5. HEALTHY COMMUNITIES**

Ms. Weisbrod provided snacks for members. She stated that she had received two sources of funding: 1) implementation and 2) planning. She wanted to take this time to do through a questionnaire regarding current planning documents. Many of the questions regarding the city documents will be referred to Chris Atkin, city planner. We were able to get through several questions regarding state and county planning documents. The remainder of the questionnaire will be on the August agenda.

Ms. Weisbrod stated that she would e-mail the questionnaire to all members so they could be more prepared for the August meeting.

## **6. CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

Mr. TenBrink quickly discussed the questionnaire he distributed at the meeting. These questionnaires will be provided to the mayoral candidates in order to get an understanding of their position on non-motorized transportation. There was discussion as to whether to send the questionnaire out to all candidates or wait until after the August primary.

A motion was made by Mr. Jancek, supported by Mr. Foster, to send the entire questionnaire out after the primary. The motion passed unanimously with Laura Schlecte abstaining. Mr. TenBrink encouraged members to review and comment on the questions prior to the September 15 distribution.

## **7. COMMENTS AND/OR CONCERNS FROM MEMBERS**

No comments or concerns were offered.

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment was received.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further comments, Chair Mauldin adjourned the meeting at 1:17 PM.

# **JACKSON COUNTY WALKABLE COMMUNITIES COALITION**

---

## **MINUTES**

**Walkable Communities Coalition  
Executive Committee  
At Region 2 Planning Commission  
120 W. Michigan Avenue  
Jackson, Michigan 49201**

**Tuesday, July 28, 2015, 12:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Laurel Mauldin, Chair  
Ted Hilleary, Vice-Chair  
Pete Jancek, Blackman Township  
Susan Richardson, Region 2 Planning Commission  
Scott TenBrink (on phone)

**I. Meeting called to order at 12:00 pm**

**II. Consideration of Partnership with U of M CID Project**

Mr. TenBrink informed the executive committee of an opportunity to have students set up IT methods for snow removal that have been discussed. The students would look into the best way to accomplish the snow removal, provide assistance, and ensure sidewalk ordinances are being enforced. First steps would be get some understanding of the problem, review the current ordinance and understand enforcement problems, discover other communication issues, and understand what community is doing for people who can shovel their walks. Part of the agreement would be to provide 10 hours per week to be available to the students by members of the WCC.

A motion was made by Mr. Hilleary, supported by Mr. Jancek, to have Chair Mauldin sign the partnership agreement on behalf of the WCC, with the support of all contributing members. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. Review of Organizational Effectiveness**

Chair Mauldin stated that members should represent WCC at their respective meetings. It is important to communicate what we do and take the message to other groups, i.e., Lions, Kiwanis, etc.

**IV. Suggest Future Meeting Agenda Items**

Topics discussed include the Iron Belle Trail; community accessibility, thoughts on exercise, nutrition, etc. An updated non-motorized plan is essential.

**V. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm

**Citizen Interaction Design  
Project Development Agreement**

Citizen Interaction Design is a novel approach to learning that partners the local government of Jackson, Michigan with University of Michigan student teams.

Together, the goal is to develop new information tools that help foster citizen engagement. We are fundamentally interested in changing how citizens engage with their local governments and non-profit organizations through the design and implementation of new tools.

In order to ensure the success of the project at hand, we ask that the sponsoring department/organization agree to the following resources:

- A completed Project Development Form that includes:
  - information on your organization,
  - a well-defined project,
  - indication of necessary resources for project success,
  - and contact information of the staff to be involved
- A designated lead contact person to coordinate with the Project team and provide resources in a timely manner
- Time and access to employees and resources, as specified in the Project Development Form

Project leads can expect initial contact with their student team's in January 2014. The students should produce products around April 15, followed by a presentation of the tool at the end of April.

I agree to the terms of this project as outlined above and will provide the necessary resources to make this analysis feasible and will adhere to the project scope originally outlined and agreed to.

Partner Contact info (typed)

NAME:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE:

EMAIL :

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization:**

Jackson County WALKABLE COMMUNITIES COALITION (WCC)

**Lead Contact name:**

Laurel Mauldin (chairperson).

**Lead Contact email:**

[lmauldin@lm-law.net](mailto:lmauldin@lm-law.net)

**What do you do?:**

Our mission, in part, is to create an environment where it is easy to walk and bike for recreation and transportation. One priority task in implementing this vision is to ensure that sidewalks are kept free of snow and ice, maintaining safe conditions for all - including the elderly, disabled citizens, persons without access to automobiles, young children in strollers, etc. – to be able to move freely around the community as well as access public transportation during the winter months.

**How does it increase citizen engagement?**

Sidewalk snow removal is truly a cooperative task involving coordinated activity and information sharing between City government, residents, and community service providers. Current informal systems have proven inadequate in all but the smallest towns, and stretches of sidewalk blocked by rutted snow and ice are commonplace during winter months in northern cities including Jackson. All members of the community need to prioritize and engage in efforts to accomplish this task of mutual caring and responsibility. Government needs to communicate legal responsibility with citizens. Citizens need access to information regarding available snow removal services, often with short notice. Additionally, sidewalk users need a convenient and effective way to report uncleared walks to the government personnel responsible for enforcement. Finally, community members need a means to identify those who lack both physical and financial means to keep their sidewalks clear of ice and snow and to communicate offers of volunteer assistance.

**How can it be assisted/supported/advanced through information tools?**

Quick, convenient, cost-effective information sharing tools available to all members of the community would provide the structure to make comprehensive sidewalk snow removal achievable. Useful components could include: government issued reminders to citizens when snow removal is anticipated or required, a real time data base that connects residents who need to hire snow removal services (e.g. someone who is out of town or ill when it snows) with available contractors, a simple and well know hotline to enable citizens to report blocked walks instantly via phone/text/email, and a connection point for citizens with no resource for snow removal and persons able to volunteer services. (These are just examples of the possibilities. The student team will be part of the process of discovering solutions!)

**How will your organization sustain & maintain this project?**

The WCC is a coalition of citizens, local and regional government agencies, and community organizations. Resources for different aspects of the project would be provided by the organization most directly involved, and all sectors would reap long-term, direct and indirect benefits in terms of time, quality of life and cost savings.

Support, operation, and maintenance of the information tool resulting from the project will be provided by WCC member organizations including Fitness Council of Jackson, Region 2 Planning Commission, disAbility Connections, the City of Jackson, and Jackson Transportation Authority.