Agenda and Minutes: Accessibility Working Group
Feb 22 after church
5th meeting

Present: Paula Gills, Robert Youngberg, Dustin Rand, Mary Alice Bisbee, Bill Pelton, Sam Clark, Numa Haase, Pat Doherty, Tina Ruth, Fran Krushenick.

Next Meeting: March 22, same time, same place

Note*: results and decisions in italics below.*

Announcements and Reports

1. Lock/Lever project. We have the locks. Installation is after church, Sunday, March 8. Bring your screwdriver! We need to make an announcement in church the previous week.
2. Plans for parking and bathroom are now largely completed, estimated, approved by the ET, and posted on the website by Fran Dodd. They would be funded indirectly through the recent bequest, if approved by the congregation Sunday, May 17.
3. Accessibility, and our two current proposals, will be a primary agenda item at the Committee of Chairs meeting May 14. We have to plan that, perhaps as a key agenda item for the next meeting.

Discussions:

1. Hidden and Invisible Disabilities subcommittee. Are we breaking down into two groups today? Does the subcommittee have a chair? What's next?
Mary Alice will talk to Liz Benjamin to figure out who is to chair the subcommittee.
Paula will begin inserting small but important items concerning hidden and invisible disabilities (taken from the UU accessibility guidelines) into the church announcements each week.
Mary Alice will arrange to distribute the state pamphlet on disability etiquette to church members and others. We may have to make our own copies. Robert Youngberg will work on the copying, source of funding to be determined.
2. **Brainstorm:** We have support from the ET. How do we present these designs to the congregation and gather support?
This discussion led to an action plan: Since the lock installation is after church March 8, Dustin will speak briefly in church on March 1, announcing the lock event (bring your phillips screwdriver) and also letting people know that plans for bathroom and parking are now posted on the website. He will also call attention to the state pamphlet.
Beginning on March 1, we'll set up a table downstairs, with large-scale drawings, some explanation about how the designs were developed and reviewed, and why they are important. This would include some discussion of how we arrived at these particular solutions. There will also be an

opportunity – indeed an invitation – for folks to ask questions and make comments. We'll staff this table on a regular basis. Dustin will put together the display. Sam will write some text to go with it, for review by the committee. Fran Krushenick will gather and collate the responses.

Other Points:

- *don't apologize*
- *simple explanation of financing "proposals are working their way through the budget process."*
- *FAQs*

3. Other things we could be working on (based on Mike Charron's report). *This discussion will be for a future meeting.*

- Signage, particularly at elevator, with braille, raised characters
- See if we can cram a wider "van accessible" parking space in our lot
- Railings to organ loft
- Research "up-to-date assistive learning technology" and "consider closed circuit TV...or live streaming...of services"
- replacement storage design.