Accessibility Town Hall

Co–Leads
Joy & Zieve

Agenda

2

The Brute Squad

🟢 **Original Purpose**
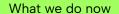To aid ordinary Fireflies in getting their stuff up to their campsites

🟢 **Equipment**
Some carts, maybe an ATV or UTV if there was an extra one.
Eventually a designated UTV

🟢 **Availability**
Minimal

Existing Services

● **UTV Rides**
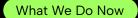Officially ONLY for getting people and their gear closer to campsites

● **Accessibility Portos**
A small bank of portos closer to the top of the hill for easier access

● **Designated Accessibility Camping**
An area set aside for folks who need to be near the accessibility portos

ATV Rides

🟢 **Challenge**

Training enough drivers on equivalent land ahead of the event

🟢 **Challenge**

Whether to staff drivers on Early Arrival and on Effigy Burn day

🟢 **Challenge**

Balancing [getting as close as possible to people who need rides] with [not tearing up vulnerable paths or damaging the ATVs]

Accessibility Portos

🟢 **Challenge**

The pits fill up and the land owners are hesitant to approve digging of new pits

🟢 **Challenge**

They can't be serviced during the event and start to smell terrible to those near them

Accessibility Camping

🟢 **Challenge**

Needs vary:

- Shade
- Quiet
- Flat
- Near ports
- Near their camp's kitchen
- Near center

🟢 **Challenge**

Following the current placement system, we'd need peoples' requirements submitted/clarified two weeks before the Burn and need one volunteer representing each person

Potential Opportunities

Current ideas a brief history

🟣 **Accessibility Parking**
Attempted in 2024, there were communication issues.

🟣 **Battery service for medical machines**
There have been attempts in the past, however some information was incorrect.

🟣 **Hop–on–hop off 24hr "Bus" UTV**
This idea has been voiced, there is pushback from other cores.

Accessibility Parking

● **Challenge**

Lots of competition for Upper Parking spots

● **Challenge**

Volunteers: Parking is hard to recruit volunteers for, as it's often boring, stressful, complicated, overnight, or all four.

Battery service for medical machines

Like CPAPs & medicine coolers

🟢 **Challenge**

Cost: Large portable batteries are expensive

🟢 **Challenge**

We'd need volunteers

🟢 **Challenge**

Trust and privacy: Volunteers will need to enter someone's tent

Hop-on-hop off 24hr "Bus" UTV

🟢 **Challenge**

Cost of renting/buying the UTV and fueling/powering it all week, especially if we get a (more expensive) electric UTV to reduce the noise

🟢 **Challenge**

We'd need more trained drivers

🟢 **Challenge**

Pushback from other cores

Help people get volunteer shifts they can do

● **Better specify requirements of each role**

● **Reduce the requirements of some roles**

● **Facilitate more abled people yielding their spot to someone with fewer options**
- This could be done in a time intensive manual way
- Or this could be done with code, but that's complex in its own way

For Current Services

🟢 **Troubleshooting accessibility portos**
The location that they have been in the past two years has been very detrimental to one of Firefly's few remaining food camps.

🟢 **Clear communication about radio etiquette**
This may be a larger issue around radio training and making sure to communicate with dispatch about ride timing.

🟢 **Community support for Accessibility Camping and Parking**
Very few people used this service, was it helpful or useful?

Discussion Norms for this Town Hall

● Assume best intentions, we are all here to improve everyone's burn.

● Prioritize Lived Experience and Assume Competence

● Don't demand disclosure, remember invisible disability, and use the language people use for themselves (e.g. person first vs. not)

● Avoid generalizing or assuming people, of any group, are a monolith.

● Be mindful of your own time before agreeing to things.

● Please stay muted whenever possible to prevent crosstalk.

Ideas from this Discussion

Next Steps

Back Burner

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