Agenda for the NIBS Low Vision Design Committee Meeting
16 May 2012, 10 am – 4 pm
Access Board headquarters, 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC
(contact: Stephanie Stubbs, 571-225-8682)

10:00 – 10:15 Welcome and Introductions (Jim Woods and Marsha Mazz)
10:15 – 11:15: Codes/ Standards and Guidelines Efforts (Eunice Noell-Waggoner)
   • FGI Guidelines for Design and Construction of Long Term Residential Health, Care, and Support Facilities
   • Revisions to ANSI/IESNA RP-28-07: Recommended Practices for Lighting and the Visual Environment for Senior Living (Eunice Noell-Waggoner and Jean Halloin)
   • Update on U.S. Access Board activities (Marsha Mazz)

11:15 – noon Research and Development Efforts (Bob Massof/Jim Woods)
   • Revised proposal for National Eye Institute (Bob Massof)
12:00 – 1:00 Lunch Break
1:00 – 1:30 Outreach and Education (Stuart Knoop)
   • Lions Club (Vijay Gupta)
   • IES Symposium (Jim Woods)
   • AIA Seminar (Bob Dupuy and Eunice Noell-Waggoner)
   • Article for Architect magazine (Stuart Knoop)
   • AIA2030: May 9 presentation (Jim Woods)
   • Westminster-Canterbury Low vision Group (Jim Woods)

1:30 – 2:00 Administrative and Fund Raising (Rob Mayer)
2:00 – 2:30 Symposium at NIBS Annual Meeting: Theme and Presenters (Jan 2013)
   (Stephanie Stubbs and Jim Woods)
2:30 – 2:45 Erin Schambureck’s research proposal
2:45 – 3:15 Action Items and Next Steps
3:15 – 3:30 New Business
3:30 – 3:45 Set date for next meeting
3:45 Adjourn
APPENDIX A

Erin Schambureck, BFA in Interior Design, Iowa State University, NCIDQ, CID
Master of Fine Arts in Interior Design Candidate, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Abstract:
The Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines were originally published in 1995 and gradually adopted by designers and end-users. At the time of its implementation very little was done to encourage early adoption and understanding of these guidelines by the design community. Participation was slow and with much grumbling. With each subsequent update to the ADA Guidelines, as well as the many building and energy code requirements, some of these frustrations continue to arise in the building design and construction professions. With the addition of low-vision design guidelines in the near future we can mitigate this negative response and encourage early adoption and creativity of solutions that follow the performance principles of the guidelines. It is my hypothesis that if there had been more positive marketing of the guidelines to designers and end-users with brief, but helpful, explanations of the problem areas the guidelines sought to improve, the ADAAG guidelines would have been implemented with more enthusiasm and less threat to creativity sooner than the pervasive negative views allowed. This project will create an explanatory version of the new low-vision guidelines that explains the principles behind each new recommendation and why the changes will make big differences for this marginalized group and our aging population in the United States. I intend to validate my findings through interviews with designers and regulators to compare opinions on new regulations today with my research findings of the initial reactions to the ADA Guidelines. These findings will influence the type of images included in the illustrated low-vision design guidelines as well as the contextual approach the document takes. The document itself will be based of the design guidelines created by the National Institute of Building Sciences committee on low-vision design and the supporting research utilized by that group to create the guidelines. The graphics will be computer generated spaces that can simulate the
concepts discussed in the guidelines and allow for alterations to the graphics that can resemble the visual scene a person with a vision disability would perceive in each situation.

**Goals:**
Encourage early utilization of Low Vision Design Guidelines as specified by the NIBS committee on Low Vision Design by offering an enhanced version of the guidelines that educate users about the value of the new guidelines and illustrate the best implementation concepts in a visual way.

**Research Questions:**
1. How do Regulators, Designers, and end-users perceive the effectiveness, practicality, implementation, and cost of low-vision accessible design measures?
2. How does this relate to the perceptions of the original Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines upon publication in 1995?
3. Can we positively impact their perceptions through changing the delivery method of the information?

**Methodology:**
- Literature review of existing studies on the original ADAAG
  - The initial direction is based on my 7 years of practice experience where the pervasive opinion of the ADA guidelines is as a set of rules to be followed, not as a guideline for including all people in architectural design.
- Search for information on low-vision design guideline history and how each document was presented and implemented. Also review if these documents are specifically address toward vision impairment or the elderly. This may make new guidelines aimed at design for low-vision unique.
- Interview current designers and regulators to gather opinions of the original ADAAG, proposed low-vision guidelines, and possible reception of an enhanced version of the guidelines.
• Summarize and analyze information from interviews and relate back to published research.
• Work with the group developing revised guidelines for low-vision design to create supplemental graphics and descriptions that enhance the guidelines for the user (designers, architects, and facility managers) to improve understanding and acceptance of these recommendations.

Additional research could include follow up with practitioners that were interviewed to gauge their reaction to the enhanced low-vision guidelines and see if they are more likely to incorporate the guidelines when they are not yet required.