

# DRAFT

## AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 5:30pm at City Council Committee Room, 9th Floor, Suite 9081,  
One Civic Plaza NW, Albuquerque

**Members Present:** Lisa McNiven, Peggy Chong, Terri O'Hare, Karen Cushnyr, CeeCee Montgomery

**Members Absent:** none

**Staff Members Present:** City: Annabelle Romero

**Members of the Public:** None

**Call to Order and Introductions:** Meeting called to order at approximately 5:30 pm

**Approval of Minutes and agenda:** Peggy Chong made a motion to approve the December minutes and agenda, Lisa McNiven seconded approval.

### No Presentations

### ADA Council Discussions:

#### Feb 4 Planning Workshop at ABQ Museum

Member Peggy Chong spoke about the planned goal-setting workshop for the ADA Council and potential locations she knew of. General discussion followed on a date, and Saturday, Feb 4 was chosen. Locations were discussed, and after the meeting the Conference room at the ABQ Museum of Art and History was eventually approved. The timing of the meeting will be 11am — 2pm. The Council will work through lunch, and lunch can either be brought with, or purchased at the Museum's Slate Cafe in lobby. Members of the public are invited, yet no formal agenda will be followed. Comments from the public can be made at the end of the meeting-at approximately 1:30 pm. The address of museum meeting is: 2000 Mountain Rd NW, Albuquerque, NM phone: (505) 242-4600 for museum info.

Topics to be covered include goals and actions for 2017 as an ADA Council. Notes will be taken on the discussion and used as a guide for Council activities throughout 2017. Councilor Klarissa Peña and her analyst Nancy Montano have been invited so the members can meet the sponsoring City Councilor and/or her analyst. Attendance at the annual SW Conference on Disability held at the Convention Center was mentioned as one 2017 goal, and inclusion in New Mexico Allies activities was also mentioned by Lisa McNiven.

### Involvement of People with Disabilities in the City

Discussion of the previous month's meeting with Police Chief Eden and other LEOs proceeded with Peggy mentioning her interest in how people with disabilities are being included in other city Boards and across city departments. Rob Perry, the city's Chief Administrative Officer, (CAO) was mentioned as someone to be contacted and invited to an ADA Council meeting so Mr. Perry could more directly answer this question. Follow up with Chief Eden by Peggy Chong was mentioned as a way to ensure that disability training and awareness was achieved by APD. Karen Cushnyr mentioned we could assist with video training or review what the APD recruits and officers are being shown. Lisa McNiven mentioned she participated in a disability awareness training the month before by the Governor's Commission on Disability and has experience doing these.

### **Explanation of how the ADA Coordinator's Office works**

Annabelle Romero discussed how she and Gabe, as the office of ADA Coordinator, handled citizen issues. Annabelle mentioned they do not develop policy. She mentioned curb cuts, parking violations and that they forward the complaints to various city departments for resolution. They also sometimes do site visits. Discussion about the Transit dept's ADA compliance issues proceeded and it was mentioned to possibly invite Bruce Rizzeri the Transit Director to one of the ADA Council's next meetings. Lisa McNiven mentioned the 311 information list of ASL interpreters for emergencies and law enforcement. Lisa also discussed and inquired how the requests for Braille or ASL or other accommodations from the public were handled. Annabelle mentioned if a citizen requests accommodations, she refers the citizen to each individual city department to request the accommodation, rather than the ADA Coordinator's office handling this. Lisa also discussed along with other members CeeCee and Terri, the fact that the Mayor's term will end in 2017 and how do we ensure consistent policies across administrations? (The Mayor is not running for reelection.) The ADA Council may have to meet with several Dept. Directors and administration staff including the new Mayor to educate them on ADA and disability access issues.

### **Mayor's Candidate Forum on Disability Issues pre-election**

The previous concerns written above led to a discussion of possibly holding a 'Candidate's Forum on Disability' before the final election for the Mayoral race. This would be a public forum, organized by the ADA Council (and others) to be held in advance of the final election to inform the public on positions each candidate has for disability policy and *actions* in the city going forward during their term. This will be discussed in greater depth at the Feb 4 planning workshop.

### **ADA Transition Plan Contract at Department of Municipal Development (DMD)**

Terri O'Hare brought up the ADA Transition Plan and wondered if Gabe (ADA Coordinator) had been involved in the selection of the final consultant. Contact was made with Gabe after this Jan 3 meeting and indicated he had been involved and did not have a copy of the RFP or knew who the final consultant was, and recommended contacting Ron Romero from DMD directly. This was done by both phone and email and Terri is awaiting Mr. Romero's reply. Terri left a message and email for Gabe indicating the ADA Council would like to be kept in the loop and get emails or updates from him about the status of this contract, as we are the city's public committee most knowledgeable about ADA requirements and outcomes in the city. It is hoped the members will hear more about this DMD contract and will be kept updated.

### **Website for ADA Council Activities and Member Recruiting**

Karen Cushnyr indicated accessibility of the city's overall website sometimes seemed like an afterthought and needed to be considered more seriously. A previous meeting with Jon Zaman and Karen led to the ADA Council being given a web page on the city's website. The ADA Council will work with the city's IT people to develop images and text for the page. This is hoped to be accomplished soon.

### **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm by a motion from Peggy Chong. It was seconded by Lisa McNiven.

The meeting minutes from January 3, 2017, have been prepared and approved by:

Chairperson: Karen Cushnyr \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: Terri O'Hare \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_