

**CITY OF  
ALBUQUERQUE  
MEETING MINUTES  
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT ADVISORY  
COUNCIL**

**Date:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020  
**Time:** 5:30 p.m.  
**Location:** City Council Government Center, Room 9081

**Council Members Present:**

Sean King, Chair  
Daniel Strones  
Matthew Loehman  
Karen Cushnyr  
Jessie Calero

**Council Members Not Present:**

Adena Martinez

**City Staff Present:**

Adam Leuschel, Assistant City Attorney  
Heather Cowan, Employee Relations Coordinator  
Crystal Velarde, minute taker

**Members of the Public:**

Julie Luna  
Christina Sandoval  
Brenda McKenna

**ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. with Chair King and Members Strones, Cushnyr, and Calero participating. Member Loehman arrived at approximately 5:45 p.m. and commenced participating in the meeting.

**ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND NOVEMBER 12, 2019 MEETING MINUTES**

Member Stones moved to approve the agenda, and Member Cushnyr second the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by other council members. Member Stones moved to approve the minutes from the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, and Member

Cushnyr seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by other council members.

### **ITEM 3: INTRODUCTIONS**

Council members, city staff and members of the public introduced themselves.

### **ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Cowan brought up the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ADA this summer and inquired if the council would like to place it on their agenda or make recommendations to the City for possible events. Mr. Leuschel also mentioned other agencies will likely be participating. He will provide information to the council as he hears more about the upcoming events.

Member Strones mentioned he has been invited to observe an emergency disaster meeting and will report back to the group next meeting.

### **ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF LETTER TO MAYOR RE: HANDICAP PARKING IN RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS**

Chair King provided a recap of Mr. Isengard's presentation to the Council and asked for any suggestions on changes to the letter. Members felt the letter was well put together and did not have suggestions regarding any changes. Member Cushnyr inquired if anyone on the council had contacted DMD to see if they had done away with the program or the status of the program. She stated she felt the council should ask the Director of DMD prior to agreeing to send a letter to the Mayor. Council agrees to table the letter until further information is available.

### **ITEM 6: PET REGISTRATION**

Member Cushnyr discussed how the City did away with pet licensing. She was told by Animal Welfare the City was losing twenty thousand a year on the program. It was an outsourced program and animal welfare's officers were not following-up to make sure the animals were licensed and current on vaccines. If an animal is adopted from the City it will have its rabies shot/proper vaccinations. As a person with a guide dog she is concerned and would like to invite someone from the Animal Welfare Department to

discuss how the ADA council can bring this back or work with the County. Member Cushnyr has had email exchanges with the department as well as invited them to the March ADA meeting. Chair King has agreed to reach out to Animal Welfare and invite them to the ADA meeting in March as well. Mr. Leuschel also stated he will reach out to the Animal Welfare attorney regarding this matter.

#### **ITEM 7: SAFETY MEASURES FOR SIDEWALKS ALONG COORS AND CENTRAL**

Member Martinez asked to place this item on the agenda. However, she is not present so the matter will be tabled for a later date.

#### **ITEM 8: HOPE REED ON ADA PARKING AUDITS**

Christina Sandoval, Principal Planner with Parks and Recreation presented on the audits being done on the Albuquerque parks. They have hired Ms. Hope Reed, who previously worked with the Governor's Commission on Disability. She is currently working on ADA compliance in ten parks. If her contract allows for more they will be added as needed. She will be providing a report on those initial ten parks and what they specifically need to be in compliance with ADA. Once Parks and Recreation receive the final reports they will put a plan in place to make the parks compliant. They will likely correct anything when the park is renovated. This will take time as there are 289 parks within the City. Chair King and Member Loehman requested they provide a list of parks and Ms. Reed's objective. Ms. Sandoval stated she will provide Chair King with Ms. Reed's contract with the City. Ms. Sandoval reiterated that parks will be updated as work needs to be done. Member Calero inquired how the ten parks were selected for the audit. Ms. Sandoval stated they were the highest traffic parks that provided multiple services. Ms. Sandoval also stated once the report is complete it will be public record.

#### **ITEM 9: BERNALILLO COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ON-STREET ACCESSABLE PARKING**

Julie Luna, Transportation Planner with Bernalillo County asked for the ADA Advisory Council's input regarding parking. Ms. Luna stated the county will be consolidating

several offices and their location will be on Silver Ave. She wanted to discuss on street handicap parking in front of the new building. She provided documents for the ADA Advisory Council to see and follow as she presented her ideas to the council. She had two main ideas on the design of the parking. One was an option with parallel parking and the other was a back-in style parking. She had also discussed her ideas with Terri O'Hare who stated she preferred the parallel parking option over the back-in parking. This may be due to the restriction of some people in turning their neck. Other issues brought up were how Silver Ave is also Bicycle Blvd. and possible ways to slow traffic on Silver Ave. Ms. Luna informed the ADA Council they will also have a customer lot on the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> and Silver Ave. however, customers will have to cross the street twice to enter their building. They will have a pick-up and drop-off area in front of their building as well. She also informed the ADA Council her office would need to get permission from the City to add the handicap space parking she was presenting to them. ADA Council preferred the parallel parking. They made suggestions for the ramp(s) that will need to be included as well.

#### **ITEM 10: NEW BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS**

Disability Rights Awareness is coming up. Member Cushnyr will be presenting on the 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be one in Albuquerque and one in Santa Fe the following week.

Member Strones will be starting a disability advocacy podcast named The Uppity Gimp.

Members welcomed new member Jessie Calero. There will be another member that should be confirmed soon.

Member Cushnyr stated she will not be available for the February meeting but could be for the March if she needed to be.

ADA Council had brief discussion regarding members attendance and ways to make it more accommodating. Especially for member who may have a hard time physically being present at meetings.

Member Cushnyr also brought up staff changes. Room will be renewed by Crystal for the remainder of the year. Someone from the office will help Chair King do the resolution and make it available for a vote in February.

**ITEM 11: ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

***Next regularly scheduled ADA Advisory Council Meeting will be Tuesday,  
February 4, 2020.***

*signed copy available upon request*

Christopher King, Chair

2/4/2020

Date