

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, April 3, 2018 - 5:30-7pm in City Council Committee Room
9th Floor, Suite 9081
One Civic Plaza NW, Albuquerque, NM

Members Present: Peggy Chong, Karen Cushnyr, Daniel Strones, , Michael Renaud. Sacheen Smith participated telephonically.

Members Absent: Lisa McNiven Terri O'Hare,

City Staff Present: William Zarr-COA Attny, Tyson Hummell- ADA Coordinator

Members of the Public: Brad Cushnyr

Call to Order and Introductions: Meeting had a quorum. Chair called meeting to order at 5:38 pm.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda: Mike Renaud moved for the Agenda to be approved, Peggy Chong seconded. Agenda Approved. The council reviewed the minutes of the March 6th, 2018 meeting. Peggy Chong requested the word "incorrectly" be struck from the minutes in the Elections section, sentence beginning "the current chair" as well as the entire sentence beginning with "Terri O'Hare brought up the need". Daniel Strones seconded this request. COA Managing Assistant Attorney William Zarr offered an alternatively worded Election section for review. The council reviewed the alternative language and decided to table approval of the March 6th, 2018 minutes to the May 1st, 2018 meeting.

Public Comment: none

Issues:

ADA COORDINATOR TYSON HUMMELL

The council welcomed Assistant City Attorney Tyson Hummell, MBA, JD, designated as the COA ADA Coordinator. Mr. Hummell introduced himself to the council and described his views on his role as COA ADA Coordinator in relation to the ADA council. Mr. Hummell described his role as a link between the ADA council and the COA. Mr. Hummell described himself as an ally to people with disabilities living in Albuquerque. Karen Cushnyr asked Mr. Hummell if there was a formal ADA complaint process available. Mr. Hummell described the COA 311 program and advised that this was the best way to file an ADA complaint. Mr. Hummell additionally advised the ADA council members to e-mail him complaints. Peggy Chong asked about the file a complaint link on the COA ADA web-page.

Mr. Hummell indicated that complaints sent through this method went to city staff. Peggy Chong and Karen Cushnyr stated concerns about the 311 system and a previous history of complaints being closed immediately after calling or no responses at all. Mr. Hummell committed to reviewing the 311 complaint process as it applies to ADA complaints and report his findings to the council at the May meeting.

Presentation on Enabled Engineers and STEM students by Daniel Strones

Council member Daniel Strones presented information about a program he is leading at UNM. It is a student organization for Engineering and STEM students with disabilities. Daniel reports that it is the first such group in the nation. The organization provides tutoring services, a resource book for grants and scholarships for students with disabilities. The organization is planning other additional services for all students with disabilities including support groups and self-defense.

Letter to Mayor

The council reviewed the final draft of the letter to Mayor Keller regarding the importance of the Inspector General's report on ADA violations in the city. Mike Renaud revised the letter by adding council member's names at the request of Terri O'hare. Peggy Chong motioned to approve the letter as revised and to approve the Chair to send the letter to the Mayor. Daniel Strone seconded. Action approved unanimously. Chair will provide signed letter to Mr. Hummell for delivery to the Mayor.

Member New Business

Council Budget

The council discussed the proposed budget that Peggy Chong put together for member input. The council discussed with city staff present the appropriate method of requesting funds from the COA. Tyson Hummell agreed to look into available options and report back at the May meeting. William Zarr suggested that the most effective method would be to

work directly with a City Councilor. Peggy Chong and Karen Cushnyr volunteered to discuss funding mechanisms with their City Councilors and report back at the May meeting.

ADA Coordinator Gatherings

Karen Cushnyr asked Mr. Hummell about the possibility of ADA council members attending ADA Coordinator trainings or other professional events. Karen Cushnyr stated that she is aware that other municipalities allow ADA council members to go to these types of events but that the COA has not. Mr. Hummell agreed to inform the ADA council of events of this nature but wasn't sure if the COA had funding for ADA council members to attend.

Proposed addition of rules or bylaws

Mr. Zarr provided a draft document titled: Rules and Regulations for the Americans with Disabilities Act Advisory Council of the City of Albuquerque. Mr. Zarr provided an overview of the contents of the document. The council discussed the document and various applications of the Open Meetings Act. Mr. Zarr provided guidance on best practice and compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Daniel Strones asked about the possibility of obtaining COA email addresses for members. Mr. Hummell offered to investigate this. The council will discuss the document and vote at the May meeting.

Announcements

Peggy Chong informed the council that she might not be able to make the May meeting due to travel. Peggy Chong announced that she had brought flyers for "Do you Dream in Colors". Peggy Chong announced that she sent follow up information to the APD Chief/ Karen Cushnyr announced that she has not had any follow up from the Sun-Port Department head regarding service animals at the Sun-Port.

Adjournment: The meeting was moved for adjournment by Karen Cushnyr at 6:41pm, and seconded by Daniel Strones. Approved.

Next Meeting May 1, 2018

The meeting minutes from April 3, 2018 have been prepared and approved by:

Chairperson: Karen Cushnyr _____ Date _____

Secretary: Mike Renaud _____ Date _____