

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

Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2020

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location:

Council Members Present:

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

Council Members Not Present

Travis Davis

Members of the Public:

Nat Dean
Chris Isengard
Nathan Gomme

City Staff Present:

Adam Leuschel, Assistant City Attorney
Jordan Vargas, ADA Coordinator
Crystal Velarde, Minute Taker
Johnny Chandler, Public Information
Coordinator with Municipal Development

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm with Chair King and Members Strones, Loehman, Calero and Cushnyr participating. Member Martinez joined the meeting at 6:06 pm.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Member Cushnyr moved to approve the agenda, and Member Loehman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by other council members. Member Strones moved to approve the minutes from the March meeting, and Member Calero seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the other council members.

ITEM 3: INTRODUCTIONS

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

ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public as well as the board shared concerns regarding outside dining during COVID. It was shared some restaurants have created outside dining in their parking lots. Issues that came up included using the handicap parking areas as patio areas, accessibility for those in wheelchairs, using canes or service animals. Mr. Leuschel shared the state will be taking the

lead on any accessibility issues and enforcement. He will share if other resources become available. Mr. Chandler shared Municipal Development (DMD) can also assist in notifying businesses they are not allowed to use handicap spaces for curbside pick up or outside dining areas. DMD is responsible for any public roadway and Mr. Chandler encouraged people to notify him if they see this. His email is jchandler@cabq.gov.

Mr. Gomme expressed his appreciation for how interpreters are being utilized at the Mayor's press conferences. His office is also pushing for the Governor's office to utilize those services as well.

ITEM 5: Handicap Parking in Residential Streets

Mr. Isengard shared a presentation regarding residential handicap parking. He also requested the board prepare a letter for the Mayor. Mr. Chandler shared how DMD once had a program that installed residential handicap parking. However, it has been so long that current employees know little about it. Mr. Chandler also stated he had a meeting prior to the ADA Council meeting with his director. They will meet again to discuss more information and what possible avenues they have to move forward. He will report back at the next meeting.

ITEM 6: Follow up with Animal Welfare Department

Chair King tried to contact the Director of Animal Welfare but has not heard back. Animal Welfare was not present at the meeting. Member Cushnyr also shared she had reached out to the Mayor's office and the Animal Welfare Director after their last meeting. However, she did not hear back from either. Animal Welfare has added an exercise yard at the shelter for the price of \$300,000. Member Cushnyr went on to share her frustration with the situation.

ITEM 7: APS Therapy

Member Strones shared he has a friend who was a speech therapist with APS. She resigned because she often had to do her sessions in the teachers' lounge or closets. He feels that does not meet ADA accessible requirements. The ADA Council would like to invite someone from APS to the next meeting to discuss speech therapy issues and ADA.

ITEM 8: NEW BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS

Title II & Title III: Ms. Vargas handles Title II complaint and Title III complaints go through the Office of Civil Rights (OCR).

Vice-Chair: The position has been vacant for some time and members feel it needs to be filled. Mr. Leuschel suggested the board vote in August of 2020 per their by-laws. The board also has a new member Travis Davis, who was appointed in April or May. However, he is not present tonight. Voting for Vice-Chair will be held in August.

Sun-Van: Member Martinez shared her negative experiences with Sun-Van and shared the policies they shared with her. Chair King will reach out to Transit.

UNM Accessibility Resource Center: Chair would like to invite someone in this office to discuss how their site can be more accessible. Member Martinez as well as members of the public voiced how difficult their site is to find.

30th ADA Anniversary: ADA Coordinator Ms. Vargas shared how the city will be holding trainings for the month of July. Some of the trainings will include the History of the ADA, Effective Communication, Sociological View of Disability, Emergency & Disaster Preparedness, Fair Housing and Service Animals. Ms. Vargas will share details as they become available.

ITEM 10: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Next regularly scheduled ADA Advisory Council Meeting will be Tuesday, July 7, 2020.

Christopher King, Chair

Date