

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

Date: Tuesday, July 10, 2018  
Time: 5:30 p.m.  
Location: City Council Government Center, Room 9081

**Board Members Present:**

Karen Cushnyr, Chair  
Terri O'Hare  
Peggy Chong  
Sacheen Smith (participated by telephone)

**City Staff:**

William Zarr, Assistant City Attorney  
Tyson Hummel, Assistant City Attorney  
Torri Jacobus, Assistant City Attorney  
Dr. Shelle Sanchez, Director of Cultural Services  
Kathy Berglund, Paralegal

**Members of the Public:**

There was no public in attendance.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Member Chong moved to call the meeting to order, Member Smith seconded the motion.  
The meeting was called to order at 5:37 pm.

**ITEM 1: APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

The previous agenda was approved by a vote of 4-0 (paralegal Berglund was getting copies of agenda and previous minutes and was not present for the agenda being approved and did not have notes of who made or seconded the motion to accept the agenda).

**ITEM 2: PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**ITEM 3: GUEST SPEAKER DR. SHELLE SANCHEZ**

Dr. Shelle Sanchez, Director of Cultural Services, discussed implementing the best practices of the ADA and how that there is not a "one size fits all" approach to Cultural

Services, as each division operates differently and has very different facilities. Many renovations are made by emergency - especially at the BioPark. Chair Karen Cushnyr stated she was concerned with the BioPark's designs not being discussed with the ADA council before they were done. Chair Cushnyr would like for Cultural Services to reach out to the BioPark and let them know the ADA board can give input on designs that will be helpful for blind persons, those that use wheelchairs, those with service animals, etc. Member Chong stated that the museum has problems with some of the exhibits being accessible to the blind. She would like there to be training for the docents so that perhaps someone could read the exhibits aloud or have audio sources available.

Member O'Hare stated that they would like for someone from Cultural Services to attend the annual LEAD Conference. Dr. Sanchez explained that getting approval for travel is difficult, as the City limits the resources available for out of state travel. There was discussion on the possibility of having one person from each division attend the annual LEAD conference. More information was given to Dr. Sanchez for future conference planning.

Member O'Hare stated that Cultural Services staff wrote service policy with no input from the ADA board, and that they would like for Cultural Services to use them as a resource for future policy.

Member O'Hare would like a group of City staff and board members to do site visits at some of the City's various cultural facilities, together with Tyson Hummell, so staff and ADA board members can discuss issues related to ADA access at the sites visited.

Dr. Sanchez asked if the board could make the time to walk through the spaces and permanent exhibits and give their input. The board agreed to do so. Dr. Sanchez stated the training of docents would be doable, but it would have to be done within each division, since each division is so different. The ADA board's approach is that they will ask the council to direct that a percentage of each department's budget be allocated for training in the ADA area.

Chair Cushnyr met with council for a budget for ADA money, as the City is well behind with ADA compliance, but there aren't enough resources available and the board would like help from Cultural Services.

Chair Cushnyr asked if Cultural Services has an ADA transition plan or if anyone was working on one. Dr. Sanchez does not believe that there is a transition plan for each department. Dr. Sanchez stated that getting an ADA transition plan should fall on the Diversity and Equity office. Assistant City Attorney Hummell stated that only DMD has an ADA transition plan. DMD has a transition plan because it was able to obtain federal funding, but in Mr. Hummell's view there needs to be a comprehensive look at have transition plans in place across all departments. Member O'Hare clarified what a translation plan does, and that is to identify where the City department is, where it needs to go, how it's going to get there, in what time frame it is expected to get there, what resources it will need to get there, and to have a very specific action plan for how the department is going to achieve coming up to compliance. Member O'Hare stated that cities such as Chicago, Miami, Houston, and Berkeley are examples of cities, among many others, that are ADA compliant.

Dr. Sanchez asked the board what it would recommend the City work on first. Member Chong stated that she would like for the City to have a quality resource list for different questions that may come up such as where to get agendas transcribed into Braille, Disability Services or disability information, a list of interpreters, and a list of other resources. The list could be sent around to each board members who could add their input to the list (i.e. such as contractors, etc.) Member Chong would also like to have the movies on Civic Plaza open captioned. Member O'Hare stated that the City's top 5 facilities would be the priority starting with the BioPark.

#### **ITEM 4: BUSINESS ITEMS**

Member Chong moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting, Member O'Hare seconded; the minutes were approved.

Advisory Council Ordinance: Member O'Hare spoke to City Councilor Pena, there was a section added to the ordinance that requires quarterly input from 3 members of the

Developmentally Disabled (DD/ID) community. Councilor Pena intended that the DD/ID community be represented on the City's ADA advisory board. Member O'Hare stated that the Developmentally Disabled Planning Commission is looking into how to work with ADA board.

Member Smith needed to go to the social security office but was assigned to the office in Rio Rancho because of her 87114 zip code. The SunVan does not go to Rio Rancho. Unfortunately, SSA makes the decision as to what office the SSA recipient/applicant need to go to, not the City.

Chair Cushnyr heard from Helen in the Mayor's office that the board members whose terms expire in October will need to reapply. This would be Terri O'Hare, Lisa McNiven and Peggy Chong. Ms. Chong has moved, so her position is now vacant.

There was no further new business.

**ITEM 5: UPDATE ON ADA COMPLIANCE LETTER SENT TO MAYOR KELLER**

Chair Cushnyr personally delivered a letter to the mayor's office on June 25th. She called Alan Armijo as to when to expect a reply or acknowledgment to the letter and for the Mayor's position or stance on the ADA community. He will take the letter to the mayor personally. Chair Cushnyr confirmed that the ADA board is on the calendar for July 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 with changes to the bylaws and they will vote to adopt them or not. Member Chong will be able to attend, Member O'Hare will attend by phone, Members Smith and Renaud will attend, and so will City legal employee Danyel Mayer.

**ITEM 6: UPDATE TO CITY'S ORDINANCE RE: ADA ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Bill Zarr stated that Danyel contacted the city clerk's office regarding updates needed to the City's online ordinance database regarding Americans with Disabilities Act §§ 2-6-5-1 through 2-6-5-6. The City Clerk's office said they would get this updated.

**ITEM 7: DISCUSSION ON DISABILITY AWARENESS/EDUCATION EVENT**

Member O'Hare stated that this is the 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ADA. The ADA has a website with a toolkit that is useful for things to do with the community. It would be nice for there

to be a proclamation from City Hall. Member Smith thought it was a good idea for to have a proclamation for the October meeting.

**ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JULY 24TH**

Chair Cushnyr moved to adjourn the meeting, Member O'Hare and Member Smith seconded, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm.

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Karen Cushnyr, Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_