

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

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

Members Present: Lisa McNiven, Terri O'Hare, Karen Cushnyr, Sacheen Smith, Mike Renaud, Peggy Chong

Members Absent: none

City Staff Members Present: ABQ Human Rights/ADA: Annabelle Romero, David Harper: Inspector General COA

Members of the Public: Thomas Sanchez, Charlene Blackledge, Nancy Harper

Call to Order and Introductions: Meeting had a quorum. The meeting began at approximately 5:30 pm

Approval of Minutes and Agenda: No quorum was present in September, so the minutes could not be approved. Agenda was moved for approval by Peggy Chong, seconded by Sacheen Smith.

Presentations There were no presentations.

Public Comment: No comments from public.

ADA Council Discussions:

New member Mike Renaud introduced himself and gave a brief statement on his background.

Sacheen Smith spoke about her experience voting. She said the voting machine/tablet did not work to accommodate her vision and she had to fill it out with assistance preventing her vote from being private. It was a frustrating experience, she indicated in her comments. The location was Petroglyph Plaza on the west side.

Peggy Chong said her accessible tabulator was blank when voting. Other members discussed which state and and/or city official this should be reported to. It turns out this is the City Clerk of Albuquerque's responsibility.

Karen Cushnyr spoke about SARA –Service Animal Relief Act that applies to airports. Karen gave background on a meeting she attended in September with Prime Flight and others about Sunport access issues. Currently service dogs cannot get to the outside of the airport to relieve themselves due to security issues. The path was supposed to be opened but has not. There

was also discussion about the time it takes for airport assistance to bring a wheelchair if needed as the public travels through the airport. There was discussion of 'rovers' in the airport who can assist the public in wheelchairs without the ability to roll themselves with bathroom breaks, etc. There will be additional accessible parking added to the Sunport lots. A videophone was mentioned as being needed at the Sunport for Deaf folks and hard of hearing folks.

Karen also mentioned the presentation to City Council she and Terri O'Hare made on September 19th. It was a basic overview of the members and the goals of the ADA council. She stressed the positive objectives the ADA council has for working with the city. The ADA council will be doing quarterly presentations for the City Council so they know what we're working on and the Mayor's office will be copied, too. Terri prepared a visual flyer with graphs showing what topics the ADA council worked on over the year, and how many city departments the ADA council has interacted with. A black and white flyer version is attached to these Minutes.

Discussion followed regarding an attendance policy for members. Annabelle suggested the council review the city's Boards and Commissions guidelines for a possible approach to attendance and other matters. It was agreed this was a good idea. That document is attached and this is a sample of the document's attendance guidelines:

Conduct.

- (1) Any member of a public board, commission or committee may be removed from office by the Mayor or by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all Councilors after due notice and hearing if such member has missed three consecutive meetings or has been absent from more than 50% of the meetings held during any twelve consecutive months.

24-hour notice of absence was discussed, with Shannon Triplett identified as the contact for this notice. Shannon can be contacted by phone or email as soon as possible by members anticipating an absence.

It was also agreed that ASL interpreters will be hired for every meeting. The current room has been booked through the end of 2018 for the ADA council's meetings.

Several upcoming meetings were discussed for members to attend and we look forward to reports by members on the outcomes of those meetings.

Membership applications delayed: This is still a problem with city staff handling Boards and Commissions approving members in a timely fashion. Two people are waiting to hear back on membership: Lindsay Sloan, and Coby Livingstone.

Adjournment:

The meeting ended at 6:30pm. The informal meeting minutes from October 3rd, 2017 have been prepared and approved by:

Chairperson: Karen Cushnyr _____ Date _____

Secretary: Terri O'Hare _____ Date _____