

# Americans with Disability Advisory Council Minutes

**Date:** Tuesday, August 3, 2020

**Time:** 5:30 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom

## Council Members Present:

Matthew Loehman, Chair  
Travis Davis, Vice-Chair  
Sean King  
Karen Cushnyr  
Daniel Strones  
Jessie Calero

## City Staff Present:

Timothy Keller, Mayor  
Alan Armijo, Director of Constituent Services  
Adam Leuschel, Assistant City Attorney  
Jordan Vargas, ADA Coordinator  
Crystal Velarde, Minute Taker  
Christina Sandoval, Program Manager, Parks & Recreation  
Hope Reed, Contractor, Parks & Recreation

## Council Members Not Present

Adena Martinez

## Members of the Public:

Nat Dean  
Rachael Cooper

### **ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm with Chair Loehman and Members Davis, King, Strones, Calero, and Cushnyr participating.

### **ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND JUNE MEETING MINUTES**

Member Cushnyr moved to approve the agenda, and Member King seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by other council members. Member King moved to approve the minutes from the July 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: Update from Jordan Vargas on 30<sup>th</sup> ADA Anniversary Trainings**

Ms. Vargas shared information regarding each session. She listed the sessions by name as well as the guest speakers and number of attendees. Ms. Vargas hopes to continue doing trainings throughout the year and thinks it would be great to partner with the ADA Advisory Council.

### **ITEM 5: PUBLIC COMMENT**

Nat Dean shared that YouTube will be discontinuing their closed captions services. She also stated they will offer six months free if that person has used the closed caption at least three times in the last six months. Ms. Dean requested that the ADA Council members send YouTube emails to keep the closed caption options.

### **ITEM 6: Presentation by City of Albuquerque Mayor Tim Keller**

Mayor Keller shared the following information:

1. 1<sup>st</sup> audit showed \$400 million lacking in investments in ADA accessibility.
2. \$200 million have been put into access projects since Mayor Keller took office.
  - a. Optimizing website, cell phones, readers, and programs.

- b. Making sidewalks and curb ramps ADA accessible.
- c. Making the following neighborhoods compliant (this is an ongoing project and neighborhoods are selected for remediation based on volume of citizen complaints):
  - i. Paradise Hills
  - ii. Kirtland Addition
  - iii. Four West
  - iv. Ladera
  - v. Parkland Hills
  - vi. Trimble
  - vii. 4<sup>th</sup> Street has been completed & Los Ranchos also completed their end.
  - viii. Rio Grande from the freeway to Central
- d. Reviewing key city buildings for compliance
  - i. Restrooms at Isotopes Park, and City Council Chambers.
  - ii. Doors at the Zoo
  - iii. 9<sup>th</sup> floor at City Hall making it easy to access City Council offices.
- e. Currently looking at spending
  - i. \$400,000 for key intersections and right-away access.
  - ii. \$500,000 for senior centers
- f. Comments and questions sent in by the board prior to the meeting
  - i. Restaurants using patios in parking lots over disabled parking spaces.
    - 1. Is being overseen by the Fire Marshall's office. Restaurants did apply for permits to use the tents/patio areas and it should have been caught prior to proving the permits. However, if you see one out of compliance feel free to contact Jordan Vargas or 311.
    - 2. Any Title II compliance issues can go through Ms. Vargas.
  - ii. Bringing visibility to the city
    - 1. Can be done through the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) and Ms. Jacobus
  - iii. Police violence on those with disabilities
    - 1. APD is under consent decree with the DOJ. If these issues are witnessed, please contact the Civilian Police Oversight Board (CPOB).
    - 2. Ableism, racism, and white supremacy cases can be brought to the OCR and CPOB.
    - 3. Use of force policies have been changed
  - iv. Emergency Management
    - 1. Following September 11, 2001, the City instituted a a robust emergency management process
    - 2. Unsure if they have connected with the ADA community but asked Ms. Vargas to connect them both.
  - v. Alan Armijo provided contact information for him if there were any questions. ([aarmijo@cabq.gov](mailto:aarmijo@cabq.gov))
    - 1. Can provide progress reports on projects if requested.
    - 2. 57 boards and commissions for the city.
      - a. Encouraged members to apply for other boards or share information with others interested in being on a city board or commission.

#### **ITEM 7: Follow-up on ADA Audit of City of Albuquerque Parks**

Hope Reed shared the findings of her audit of the following city parks regarding ADA

compliance:

1. Los Altos (pool area)
  - a. Parking lots ramps are too steep
  - b. There are bumps on the sidewalks
  - c. Automatic doors button is at 48 in. but should be at 36 in.
  - d. The ADA accessible counter was covered with security gate. Ms. Reed stated it could be lifted if they needed to help someone but felt it should be open.
  - e. Door clearances were not particularly good, and the doors are heavy.
  - f. Had 2 unisex bathrooms in the lobby and felt they should be in the pool area, but they worked.
2. Los Altos (skate park)
  - a. Felt the park was creepy, run down and families would not want to go there. The park is in bad shape.
3. USS Bullhead
  - a. Fields
    - i. no handicap accessible seating
  - b. Parking lots
    - i. were not marked properly for accessible spaces and were faded.
  - c. Play area/picnic area/missile display
    - i. Has rubber and sand with a 45° slope in play area
    - ii. Access to play area was dangerous and hard to maneuver
    - iii. Missile display is on a hill and the start of the ramp was about 100-150 feet away
4. Manzano Mesa
  - a. Nicest park she has seen with lots of active people
  - b. Play area had wood chips and it needs to be updated to the rubber surface to allow wheelchairs the ability to move
  - c. Pickleball courts had no handicap accessible seating
  - d. Picnic area was nice
  - e. Not enough handicap parking spaces
5. Montgomery Park
  - a. No walkways through the park, it is mostly grass
  - b. Arroyo goes through park and has bridges with gaps large enough for a child to get through
  - c. Climbing play equipment was loose and hazardous

Ms. Reed has provided four reports to parks and recreation. These reports will be shared with Ms. Vargas. Ms. Sandoval went on to explain they currently have a project going at Montgomery Park and plan to add the walkways through the park, as well as a plan to schedule restriping. They have asked Ms. Reed to preform audits on the parks, so their department is aware of what is needed and work the upgrades into their capital plan. The city has close to 300 parks and 180 play areas they are working on extending Ms. Reed's contract to allow her to review more parks and play areas.

#### **ITEM 8: NEW BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS**

Nat Dean is willing to go to the legislature when they are back in session with any concerns from the board if they would like. Judy Heumann will be doing a zoom presentation tomorrow. Ms. Dean will send the information to Ms. Vargas to share.

Mr. Leuschel discussed the new formation of the Albuquerque Community Safety Department. He will ask the Director to come speak with the board once there is more information.

Ms. Calero will be doing a training with the Association of Fundraising Professionals on August 25, 2020. The topic will be Disability Inclusion & Accessibility: An Introduction to Deconstructing Ableism. This is a training for anyone.

**ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

**Next regularly scheduled ADA Advisory Council Meeting will be Tuesday, September 1, 2020.**

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Matthew Loehman, Chair

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Date