

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 5:30pm at City Council Committee Room, 9th Floor, Suite 9081,
One Civic Plaza NW, Albuquerque, NM

Members Present: Lisa McNiven, Peggy Chong, Terri O'Hare, Karen Cushnyr, CeeCee Montgomery

Members Absent: none

Staff Members Present: City: Annabelle Romero, Gabe Campos, Brian Osterloh, Assoc. CIO for Applications and Julie Luna from Bernalillo County

Members of the Public: Charlene Blackledge, Sacheen Smith

Call to Order and Introductions: Meeting called to order at approximately 5:30 pm

Approval of Minutes and Agenda: Peggy Chong made a motion to approve the January 3rd Minutes and Agenda, Lisa McNiven seconded approval.

Presentations

Brian Osterloh spoke about the ADA Council's requested webpage and how to address changes and new postings. He indicated there is a url _____ and we can provide information to be uploaded by contacting a staff member in IT. Mr. Osterloh indicated the city's site is a level AA when it comes to Section 508 access standards but could go to AAA level as changes are implemented. Mr Osterloh also mentioned a city 'Communications Roundtable' that sounded good to investigate for participation.

Member of the public Sacheen Smith spoke about recent experiences she had on Paratransit as a blind rider. During the current ART construction, Ms. Sacheen found herself left off at inaccessible transit stops which she had no warnings about. This required very long trips taking her miles out of her way. There is no warning or alternative communication to blind users of Paratransit during ART construction and there needs to be. Member Peggy Chong says the city should send out emails in advance of issues, but does not. Sacheen has met with Transit Director Bruce Rizzeri, Michelle Lujan and Annette Hyatt at Transit, to no use. Nothing has happened and she has been asking for accommodations such as a map, an app or guide for the stops during construction. Note: (This is an ADA violation and should be investigated by the city). Sacheen has attended rider meetings at Transit to voice complaints and came to our council to seek answers and a solution. We await Gabe and Annabelle's answers as to how the city will handle this complaint. Sacheen was also not allowed to ride the regular bus when a driver would not take the money she had ready for him, but could not place into the receptacle. Gabe indicated this is illegal and the driver should have known to take the money. This is a violation of ADA and is noted. Transit has many of these

kinds of violations and noting substantial seems to ever change. The ADA council is appreciative of Sa-
cheen's time in coming to our meeting to provide her input on issues in Transit that affect people with
disabilities. Karen Cushnyr mentioned a 'flip book' of various disabilities and suggestions for people such
as the Transit driver that had no apparent training in ADA accommodations would be a useful item to
develop and publish this year for distribution to riders needing this to assist with smooth rides on public
transit. This could also assist in law enforcement/police interactions.

Julie Luna, a transportation planner was the next presenter/speaker from Bernalillo County. Julie presented
a 4-page document regarding The Bernalillo County ADA Transition Plan Update she is working on. It
included 3 pages of images of various curb ramp conditions including sidewalk 'path of travel' and inter-
section ramp options. The group gave Julie feedback and thoughts on each. Julie is working primarily in
the public right of way (ROW) and is considering sidewalks, ramps and trails in her Plan. She indicated the
County did a first Transition Plan in the 1990s, another update in 2009 and now in 2017, another update.
A fascinating bit of data Julie shared is that the County has 77 miles of sidewalk, and the city of Albuquer-
que has 5,000 miles of sidewalk. Member Lisa McNiven spoke on specific issues in the ROW regarding
deaf folk not liking the city's new 4-way stops, and preferring the signalized stops in downtown. There are
20-25 Deaf/Blind folks living near downtown and they cannot hear or see the stop signs/traffic. Vibrating,
'tactile' pedestrian signals were discussed and need further investigation by the Council, NMDOT and
Gabe and Annabelle. Peggy spoke about the bumpy ramp transitions for blind pedestrians and the tran-
sitions from brick dome pavers to plastic dome pavers. Wide, 'blended' intersections (as shown in one of
Julie's examples) are not as directional, and less helpful for blind pedestrians who need to align with the
crosswalks to get safely across intersections per Peggy.

Member of the public Charlene Blackledge spoke to introduce herself and share a bit of what was going
on at UNM with a student she leads group focused on ADA accessibility called ENABL. They have a
Facebook page and meet monthly. Member Lisa McNiven mentioned a few other student groups she knew
of for Charlene to network with, such as the Disabled Civil Engineering Student group, and a UNM Medical
Students with Disabilities group. The Council enjoyed meeting Charlene and looks forward to networking
in the future with UNM and ENABL.

ADA Council Discussions:

The Council decided that no July, 2017 Council meeting will be held due to summer vacations and family
travel schedules.

Feb 4 Planning Workshop at ABQ Museum-cancelled and moved to March 25, 2017

The planning workshop will be held at the same location and time -11 am - 2pm. The address of the museum meeting is: 2000 Mountain Rd NW, Albuquerque, NM phone: (505) 242-4600 for museum info.

Topics to be covered include goals and actions for 2017 as an ADA Council. Notes will be taken on the discussion and used as a guide for Council activities throughout 2017. Councilor Klarissa Peña and her analyst Nancy Montano have been invited so the members can meet the sponsoring City Councilor and/or her analyst. Attendance at the annual SW Conference on Disability held at the Convention Center was mentioned as one 2017 goal.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7 pm by a motion from Peggy Chong. It was seconded by Lisa McNiven.

The meeting minutes from February 7, 2017, have been prepared and approved by:

Chairperson: Karen Cushnyr _____ Date _____

Secretary: Terri O'Hare _____ Date _____