

Americans with Disability Advisory Council Minutes

Date: Tuesday, August 3, 2021

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Council Members Present:

Travis Davis, Chair
Diane Mourning Brown, Vice-Chair
Daniel Strones
Matthew Loehman
Sean King
Kerry Houlihan

City Staff Present:

Robin Rose, Assistant City Attorney
Jordan Vargas, ADA Coordinator
Crystal Velarde, Minute Taker
Police Chief Medina

Members of the Public

Nat Dean
Karen Cushnyr
Manuel Baca

Council Members Not Present:

Kaatje van der Gaarden

- I. **Call to Order**
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm with Chair Davis, Vice-Chair Morning Brown and member Strones, King, Houlihan and Loehman.
- II. **Approval of Agenda**
 - a. Member Strones moved to approve the agenda, and Member Loehman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by other council members.
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Member Loehman moved to approve the minutes for the July 6, 2021 meeting, and Member Houlihan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by other council members.
- IV. **Introductions**
 - a. All who were present introduced themselves.
- V. **Public Comment**
 - a. Members of the public shared concerns regarding MDC accessibility issues and how public comment was taken for the Council meetings.
 - b. Another member of the public shared information regarding the New Mexico Legislative Health and Human Services Committee.
- VI. **Discussion on Disability Issues with City of Albuquerque Police Chief Medina**
 - a. Police Chief Medina joined the Council to discuss disability training for the Albuquerque Police Department (APD). Chief Medina stated the officers have training as cadets, and all officers also received an updated training in 2019.
 - b. In May of 2021 APD also launched the new Ambassador Program. The program was designed to facilitate clear, consistent lines of communication with different groups in the community. One of the eleven groups is the Americans with Disabilities Community. Chief Medina would like his ambassadors working with the disability community to attend one of the Councils meetings when the Council

is ready.

- c. Chief Medina additionally invited Council members to go speak to his officers in an informal setting to tell their stories. He would like his officers to understand from the Council members point of view. Chief Medina went on to explain he has several reports and papers to train with however, he feels if the Council tells their stories it brings a human aspect for his officers. Chief Medina also suggested doing a town hall on Facebook live with his officers to educate them on a human level.
- d. Chief Medina assured the Council his officers will be working with the Albuquerque Community Safety (ACS) department once they are up and fully running. APD does currently have a CRISIS team that they work with as well. The CRISIS team will also work closely with the Albuquerque Community Safety Department. However, the Albuquerque Community Safety Department is in the process of creating their policies and aligning them up with APD's current policies.

VII. Discussion on Future Council Meeting Agenda Items

- a. Members would like to follow up with:
 - 1. Mariela Angel-Ruiz. She had presented on the Albuquerque Community Safety department last year.
 - 2. NM State Auditor Brian Colón and his ADA audit of state buildings.
 - 3. APS regarding their therapy meeting areas. The Council was informed those sessions were often done in a storage closet.
 - 4. New Mexico Legislative Health and Human Services Committee.
 - 5. New Mexico Governor's Constituent Service department.
 - 6. Metropolitan Detention Center and their accommodations. Someone from the Council will need to reach out as MDC is run by the County and not the City.


VIII. New Business and Announcements from Members

- a. Member Loehman would like the Council to provide feedback to the Governor and the Mayor on ADA projects.
- b. Vice-chair Morning Brown suggested the Council add old business to the agenda so they do not lose sight of things that have been asked of the Council.

IX. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.

The next regularly scheduled ADA Advisory Council Meeting will be Tuesday, September 7, 2021.



Travis Davis, Chair

9/7/21

Date