

Pueblo and PACOG ADA Advisory Committee  
Minutes of the Meeting  
November 6, 2014

**The Meeting was called to Order at 1:05.**

**Present:** Sharon Campbell, member; Jeanie Benfield, Vice Chairperson; Jo Booms, interpreter; John Madrid, member; Bill Edwards, member; Kip Morphew, Facilities Manager; Earl Wilkinson, ADA Coordinator; Ralph McPherson, Co-chair; George O'Brien, Lisa Aragon, Human Relations Commission, Ed Brown, City Council; Heather Norton, guest; Brandon Beauvais, Pueblo Police Department; Pat Manzanares, Pueblo Transit; Sam Vigil, Public Works; Dale Buterbaugh, member; Barb Yaeger, guest; Kristen Castor, Secretary

**Minutes were in error and will be approved next month.**

**Handicapped Parking Patrol: Brandon Beauvais**

The two most regular volunteers have taken positions in the department. Two more are being hired. There have been 19 violations of parking spaces and one on access lanes in the last month. There have been cases that have gone to court where the logo is obscured by snow and then it depends on whether the driver knew that it was a handicapped space or not. There is a minimum time commitment of 8 hours a month in the volunteer program. There are two cars available to the entire program. Citizens can call non-emergency dispatch for other parking issues at 553-2505.

Kristen will send a copy of the ADA parking requirements adopted by the city, and the parking law passed last year.
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**Transit: Pat Manzanares**

Pueblo Transit has made a presentation to city council as shown in the handout included in the record with the minutes. The 10% reduction in the budget that the City Manager has called for will be made by expected savings in fuel costs. Streets Media Group is producing more income with creative advertising.

The transit center will be open to 10:00 pm from November to March to shelter Greyhound customers from the cold. There is more money available this year to build an unheated shelter for Greyhound customers. Pat notes that only the larger cities offer a shelter that is open 24 hours a day.

Pat will send Kristen an electronic copy of the PPT to post with the minutes.

### **Public Works: Sam Vigil**

The East Side Library is almost complete. The transit center shelter has been started.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded curb ramp construction is ongoing. On the East side of Belmont there will be two additional curb ramps because there is some money left over. In the Bessemer Area Neighborhood District (BAND) around Royal there will be new sidewalk, curb, gutter, and parking lot. The next CDBG curb ramp project is going to be awarded soon.

The Memorial Hall project will be complete by spring. The completion of the City Hall interior has been advertised.

Plaza Verde park has been re-bid for picnic area and park improvements. The Dillon Flyover will probably start in the spring. The El Centro trails and plaza project is being put to contract and should be completed by June.

The sidewalk assessment tool is in limbo. There isn't enough staff time to make the calculations to mesh with the Asset Management program. While it is possible to show wheelchair routes in addition to just curb ramps, it is more complicated than it may seem.

George advised the Committee that the Department of Justice is in contact with him. Sam presented new curb ramp designs that meet the coming design challenges. The bottom one passed. Sam will send something to Ralph that he can read and it needs to be posted to the web site.

### **Effective Communication**

Kristen said the plans now are to present small workshops targeted to specialized audiences, such as police and fire, the business community, etc. over the next year. There is some question about whether city workers need to be included because the city has its own training, which has been pushed back to March for this Committee to review.

Earl said there is a need for a workshop for city workers, especially seasonal workers in the parks. There have been incidents at the Kiddie Rides, etc. by young workers who had no understanding of communication needs.

Kristen will send a note to Steve Meiers about the best timing for this workshop.

Lisa said that the Human Relations Commission (HRC) also needs some help with schools. There was an incident where a teacher chided a student for not being able to speak clearly when the student had a speech impediment.

Ralph will find out Rod's timing for next year for the Greater Pueblo Chamber.

Dale said Department of Social Services (DSS) needs a lot of work, both in the office and on the phone. He had trouble finding what office and which window to go to.

He has talked to people who have set up the VRI system for hospitals and they are willing to train the hospital staff on guidelines if need be.

### **Chairpersons' Report**

Ralph has spoken with the students who are working on the RTA project. They will make their final presentation on Tuesday November 25 at 9:00 at the El Pueblo History Museum.

George talked with Laura Whittrup about texting to 911 and hopes to have a reply by December. Other cities have it.

The review of the employee training program is now scheduled for March.

The review of the Judicial Center needs to be repeated with Dale and Ralph present. The signage needs work. Right now it is impossible to tell where to go for what. The ramp from the entrance turns just before the parking lot a few inches above ground level and George didn't see it. There will be a barrier, probably a rail, so that the transition is clearly marked. Restrooms have double doors that open toward each other, which is almost impossible to navigate.

George will work with Weston, Ralph and Dale on another date.

Earl said he attended the workshop on Emergency Planning at the new Emergency Operations Center and discovered that Pueblo has a long way to go.

George will ask for a full report on what the city's responsibility is and how to go about building a plan for the next meeting.

**The meeting adjourned at 3:05**

**The next Work Session for the ADA Committee is Thursday, November 20, at El Pueblo History Museum, 301 North Union, from 1-3.**

**The next regular meeting of the Pueblo and PACOG ADA Advisory Committee is Thursday December 4, 2014 at El Pueblo History Museum from 1-3.**

**Anyone requiring accommodation should contact Earl Wilkinson at 553-2295 a week before the meeting, especially when requesting interpreters for the deaf.**