

Pueblo and PACOG ADA Committee Meeting  
Minutes of the Meeting  
August 6, 2015

Present: Kristen Castor, secretary; Dale Buterbaugh, member; Ralph McPherson, member; George O'Brien, member; Earl Wilkinson, ADA Coordinator; Kip Morphey, City Facilities Manager; Bill Edwards, Center for Disabilities, member; Donald Bruestle, Vice Chair; Sharon Campbell, Co-Chair, Ed Brown, City Council; Brenda Broyles, Pueblo Transit

**The meeting was called to order at 1:10 by Sharon Campbell.**

Minutes were accepted with the following corrections: Dale does want to follow up with a certified letter to the hospital. It is taking time.

The work session will be Thursday August 13, not in July.

## **City Updates**

- **City Park Bathhouse**

The plans are 98% complete and have included Terry's comments about doors opening out wherever possible as a fire safety issue as well as easier access to people using wheelchairs.

George is having problems with double doors. We might want to look at requirements.

- **Bike Lanes**

Pepper will be making a presentation to city council in October. No one is in agreement about what the problem is let alone the solution. You can unload in the bike lane. Deliveries still stop in the parking area. Earl will bring a plot plan to the next meeting to look at the logistics. There will be angled parking on Main between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> on Main. Todd Pasquin might be amenable to putting in a parking space. We will contact Amy Kunstle for her feedback.

## **Transit: Brenda Broyles**

Pueblo Transit will run the Fair Shuttle again this year and will use the larger buses. The Fair runs from August 28 to September 7. There will be no shuttles on Friday August 28, Monday the 31 and Tuesday September 1 because of lack of funding. The Chieftain posts the schedules every day so alert fairgoers should be informed.

CitiLifit recertification is taking place. A lot of questionnaires have been coming back with enough medical information to qualify riders. No one has had to come in for an

assessment yet. MV has ordered 6 vans to replace old ones and is keeping 2 for back up.

There was a period of 11 days with 7 buses down for repairs. They were waiting for parts. Now there are only 2 in the shop. The large buses were used in the interim and everyone enjoyed them. Dale asked who made up the notices because many Deaf thought these routes were being closed permanently, not just suspended for repairs. He would like to work with someone about wording the next time things change.

The Greyhound kiosk was closed for a while. Loaf and Jug outlets sold tickets and there was also Internet. The shelter was ordered 8 weeks ago and it is due in another few weeks. It will take only a few days to build it.

### **ADA Training: Sharon Campbell**

Sharon says the training is going well. Dale talks about service dogs, Sharon talks about hearing loss. The officers have been impressed with Jeanie. Sharon is working on handouts, but it is difficult to make all the information compact. The officers seems to like the opportunity to ask questions. Most of their questions were about communication, including people with autism and people with mental illness. Kristen suggested working with Friendly Harbor.

Dale said because someone was able to escape with hands tied in front, everyone is cuffing hands in back until they are sure of safety.

Earl thinks there is a need to train parks employees about service dogs and he is working with Dale on it.

### **Effective Communication**

Kristen read the correspondence from Candice Alder about interpreters (attached). Kip asked who is responsible for getting the interpreter. Technically it is the doctor, but the Deaf person is in a much better position to share that information. Dale is encouraging people to say "We need an interpreter," and that makes it a shared responsibility as people learn what the requirements are.

Chairperson's Report

### **Libraries**

We are in the process of identifying what it is libraries have to do. The Department of Justice has no specific guidance. The American Library Association has made tip sheets for working with specific populations, but they are not accessible to screen readers. We already know there is a lack of wheelchair accessible counter space, the FM devices don't work, the study carrels in Genealogy or so small as to be inaccessible, and there is a need for speech to text and text to speech technology.

Sharon suggested this was a medium term project to identify problems and develop training.

## **The Regional Transportation Authority**

The RTA will be discussed at the August 27 PACOG meeting at the EOC at noon.

We need a committee of champions to lead this effort, possibly Dave Galli, Dave Feamster, and representatives from Vestas, Peewag, etc.

Ed Brown said ½ cent tax increase raises 7 million dollars and we are already at a high rate of taxation. These taxes usually have exemptions for the poorest because of what is taxed. That amount of money is not going to fund a road from Pueblo West. We will have to look at a much more specific role for it.

Bill Edwards said Pueblo West resents being dumped on. It feels like the County Commission has foisted off all the marijuana production to Pueblo West over the objections of the residents. We will have to be sure to avoid the perception of using Pueblo West to get what we want.

## **The Azteca Apartments**

The Azteca is a 14 story apartment complex for the elderly and disabled in Belmont. It is federally funded by HUD and privately owned. Ralph has a friend living there who says both elevators are out and it is illegal to use the stairs. Kristen said it is impossible to take a complaint far enough to do anything. There are times the fire alarms are disconnected because leaking water from the flat roof sets them off.

Earl will talk to Fire Chief JR Hall about it. Ralph said his contact could call channel 5/30 about an expose.

**The meeting was adjourned at 3:00.**

**The next work session is Thursday August 13<sup>th</sup> at El Pueblo History Museum, 301 North Union, from 1:00 to 3:00.**

**The next Pueblo/PACOG ADA Meeting is Thursday September 3 at El Pueblo History Museum, 301 North Union, from 1:00 to 3:00.**

**Anyone who needs accommodations should call Earl Wilkinson at 553-2295 a week before the meeting.**