

Pueblo ADA Advisory Committee  
Minutes of the Meeting  
August 4, 2011

Present: Sharon Campbell, chair; June Akeo, guest; Tammy Dickey, guest; John Madrid, member; Vickie Weeks, guest; Ralph McPherson, guest; Kip Morphew, Facilities Manager; Sam Vigil, ADA Coordinator; Chanell Turner, CitiLift; Brenda Broyles, Pueblo Transit; Kristen Castor, Secretary; Jeanie Benfield, vice chair.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes were approved as presented.

### **CitiLift Report: Chanell Turner**

CitiLift averages about 250 rides a day Monday through Thursday. On Friday and weekends, demand drops off along with medical related trips and employment at PDI, Bluesky and other service agencies. Dialysis is always an unpredictable demand.

Kristen Castor asked about Ambucab services on behalf of Latisha Bunch and what it would take to get this in Pueblo. Latisha had a surgical procedure recently and had difficulty arranging transport. CitiLift certainly fulfills some of this need with dialysis and medical trips, but regulations require riders to be coherent and to get themselves indoors. People returning home from same day surgery under the aftereffects of sedation may not be able to do this.

Vickie Weeks said hospitals do transport to the Azteca for insurance payment by ambulance. George O'Brien said in Denver an Access a Ride card would get 5 miles of taxi service. He also said the Access a Ride card was a pass on the whole system. These are ways that CitiLift can also participate. This is properly an issue for the cab company. In Denver, everything goes through RTD.

Brenda will look into Ambucab service to see how it works and if Pueblo Transit can be involved. Sharon Campbell will invite the taxi company to the next meeting.

On another front, Vickie Weeks said that for the last four months, the CitiLift drivers would only open the door and let her out, refusing to give her guidance to the door. They said they were from Denver and did not have to leave the van.

Brenda Broyles said the service operates from point of origin to point of destination, which includes door to door. She requested that people call her directly with this kind of problems at 553-2725. She will set up secret riders to test how drivers are implementing this policy.

## **Pueblo Transit Report: Brenda Broyles**

### Fair Shuttle

Sharon Campbell asked if CitiLift could operate along side the Fair Shuttle. Brenda said technically it should, but one van would be all that would be required and it would follow the same route as the shuttle. She has not implemented it in the past for fear that people will expect service to their homes and demand could outstrip capacity. It might be possible to meet the cost with donations as there was more money available last year than used.

Brenda Broyles will consult with the Transit Board and CitiLift and SRDA about the logistics of providing a CitiLift companion to the Fair Shuttle.

**The Fair Shuttle will be at the Municipal Parking Garage until 10 pm weekdays and 12 pm Friday through Sunday August 25 to September 5. Parking is free, but the shuttle fare is \$2.00.**

There will be 3 buses from Colorado Springs joining the fleet so that local service will not be curtailed.

### Bus Shelters

Lamar has removed 7 shelters and has agreed to stop until the new vendor has been selected. The bus stop signs were also taken when the shelters were removed and have been replaced.

### Greyhound

Terry Skinner brought up a concern about lack of shelter for people waiting for busses after hours. The bus stop now is on the arcade next to the parking structure facing Grand on the north side. The plan is to provide more cover with funding that was intended for the service kiosk. Pueblo Transit built this with existing funds because of time concerns.

George O'Brien asked that signs be painted and Brenda Broyles said that was in the plan for the near future. There are 20 signs standing by. There will be 300 more available soon.

## **Presentation of Award from CCDC**

Sharon Campbell will present the award from CCDC to the city at the City Council meeting on August 8.

## **ADA Training**

Sam Vigil said the training was beneficial. June Akeo said that later someone told her about a person who had to put down a \$500.00 deposit at Bluesky Apartments for a service animal. There were also several questions about service animals in public housing as well as in businesses.

June Akeo will call Sandy Lahman at Meeting the Challenge and arrange for a workshop on Fair Housing issues through the specialist Sandy knows. John Madrid will volunteer to invite people.

Kristen Castor will follow up with Sam Vigil and Robert Schmidt on the Facilities Training

Should we make this quarterly and target the business community

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

The East 8<sup>th</sup> Street project is completed.

There are two curb ramp projects Phase II of 2011 the phase out of 2010. The left over funding is covering 14 citizen requests, which will clear the current list. BAND put in a request for curb ramps on Mesa, Arroyo and Summit from Abriendo to the Fair grounds and received \$108,000. They will be awarded at the August 22 City Council meeting.

Curb ramps requests have been advertised in the paper and on Channel 13 on July 25<sup>th</sup>. The city will consider all areas. Overlay sights on routes such as 8<sup>th</sup> street from Santa Fe include curb ramps.

## **Parks Access: Kip Morphew**

The curb ramp in front of the Art Guild is being re-done. Ron Burke has submitted some written input, but Kip would like the maps marked with locations.

Members are encouraged to turn in their parks maps with curb ramps locations.

## Work Plan

Kristen Castor presented the goals set in the 2011-12 work plan for feedback. It was agreed that the Committee should organize one ADA Training per quarter, with the next one being the follow up to the facilities training.

Additionally, Earl Wilkinson brought up the issue of a deaf citizen who repeatedly calls the Police Department with a complaint against his estranged spouse. He uses a videophone for the initial contact with city staff, but insists on having a certified interpreter for any further discussion. He refuses to press charges and there is never any evidence that he is actually being threatened. This is probably a misuse of the ADA.

It was agreed that Terri Rose and Deaf Gathering should be consulted about whether it is required to have a certified interpreter in the above instance and what can be done to educate the deaf community about proper use of the effective communications provisions in the ADA.

One of the goals left over from the last year was to review the ADA Training. This is now done online and anyone can use the Internet to see it.

Sam Vigil will ask HR to will set up a review of the ADA training to be certain it is current.

Kristen Castor also noted that the goal to review county building accessibility is not complete. The Help America Vote Act funded a review of polling places last year and Faith Gross worked extensively with Bo Ortiz to establish what the county has to do to make the County Courthouse accessible. It included turning the Facilities Management office in the basement into a Customer Service center where anyone can access services available on the upper floors. These changes must be complete by the 2012 elections and there is no indication they have been done yet.

Sharon Campbell will invite Bo Ortiz to the October meeting

John Madrid, Ron Burke, and June Akeo will meet to discuss an informal survey of highly used county facilities, such as the Department of Social Services outlet on Desert Flower and report findings to Mike Harriman before the next meeting.

Terry Skinner added that the Veterans Administration provides transportation to its hospitals, but does not have a lift equipped van. This is an issue for Access for All.

Sharon Campbell added an objective to Goal 6 to develop press releases and meeting notices to improve our publicity.

**The meeting adjourned at 3:10.**

**The next meeting of the Pueblo ADA Advisory Council is Thursday September 1, 2011 from 1:00 to 3:00 at the El Pueblo History Museum**

**The work session scheduled for August 18 has been cancelled. To re-schedule, please call Sharon Campbell at 561-0648.**