

Pueblo and ADA PACOG

Minutes of the Meeting

March 1, 2018

Present: Don Bruestle, member; George O'Brien, member; Ed Brown, city council; Bart Mikitowicz, City Planning; Alan Neff, Pueblo Transit; Heather Norton, Vice-Chair; Kristen Castor, Secretary; Ralph McPherson.

Approval of the Minutes

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| Heather is not as familiar with the history of the rest of us and needs more content. It helps for her to process it as well. |
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Don Bruestle moved to accept the minutes as given with the call for more detail in future. The motion carried as amended.

City Updates

Alan Neff pointed out that the position of president of the Transit Board is vacant. Kristen explained that Earl Wilkinson, as Public Works Director, Sam Azad, as City Manager, and Ed Vaught as a member of our committee, make up the transit board. It meets quarterly and provides oversight for Pueblo Transit. It's not clear who will take Earl's place.

Ed Brown said the street utility, which allows the city to add a small fee to everyone's water bill, will pay for curb ramps with street overlay, which will include many places that are not eligible for Community Development Block Grants, including Belmont and parts of the Old North Side.

Ralph asked if all of Jackson Street is still slated to have curb ramps replaced because construction work has stopped at about Pitkin. Ed Brown said he thought it might be that there was utility work that had to be done first. Heather said some of the curbing was historic. The name of the street is stamped into the curb. There are efforts to saw that piece out and integrate it into the new construction. We might ask for an explanation.

Bart is gathering information for the updated bike and pedestrian plan. He handed out a rough draft of what it would look like. It is a list of all the amenities that an avid bike rider would need to access bike lanes and trails safely. It needs to be added to, and put into a spreadsheet so that each feature can be rated. The first very informal public meeting is at the Senate, a bar on Victoria and South Union which turns out not to be accessible. Bart said he was trying to capitalize on non-traditional places. He offered that it is possible to go out into the park or come here to the museum. Kristen said

that the Senate is a historic building that has not done significant remodeling, so it does not have to come into compliance with the ADA, although we would like to encourage them to do so.

Don Bruestle pointed out that many businesses on South Union could be accessible from the rear or alley as the Italian community there wants to create piazzas. Gary Anzuini, who owns several properties in the area, was interested in doing that with a building on Victoria and C when Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) was trying to re-locate. Because access through the back entrance smacked of second class treatment, DVR turned down the proposal. Mr. Anzuini sued the state and there has not been a lot of activity on remodeling that alley.

George is interested in getting a complete list of businesses that are accessible or interested in becoming so. There may be an app that allows anyone to rate the accessible features of any building. Heather said the historical portion is usually the front. Don added that he is now a member of Accent on Ageing and is doing a study replicating what is being done in Denver.

Kristen added that in Colorado Springs, accessible businesses were given a decal to put in their window and mention in the Chamber of Commerce listing as an accessible business. All of this is fodder for Bart's plan.

Bart passed out a number of maps showing issues for safety such as where fatalities occur, where streetlights are, what the speeds are, where curb ramps are, where bus stops are and he wants to get input on other things that need to be part of it.

Effective Communication

Kristen has introduced Dale to Sandy Gutierrez. She used to be the Executive Director of the Latino Chamber of Commerce and played a leading role in creating the Human Relations Commission, so she has a strong background in civil rights. Now she is on the board of St. Mary Corwin. She is working with Dale on an appointment with Mike Cafasso, the new Executive Director of St. Mary Corwin

Service Animals

Delta Airlines has backed off on its requirements for veterinary records 48 hours before flight time, but they still want the records. This is a violation of the ADA, but Delta and other airlines are pushing their boundaries now that the Justice Department has withdrawn all guidance on service animals. Bart wants to put in something about service animals on his maps.

Chairperson's Report

Kristen was able to confirm that Sam Vigil, who works in Public Works and has maintained the citizen curb ramp request list will be the new ADA Coordinator. He has a family emergency today.

The next regular ADA Committee meeting is Thursday April 5 from 1:00-3:00 at the El Pueblo History Museum at 301 North Union.

The work session is Thursday April 12 at the same time and place as above.

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