

Pueblo and PACOG ADA Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
July 5, 2018

Present: Dale Buterbaugh, Chair; Ralph McPherson, member; Edward Vaught, member; Joseph Sancites, Volunteer Handicapped Parking Patrol; Joe Martellaro for Sam Vigil, ADA Coordinator; Bart Mikitowicz, Patricia O'Brien, guest member; Ted Lopez, guest; Heather Norton, Co-Chair; Don Bruestle, member; Sara Rose, Pueblo Library; Kristen Castor, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 1:15

The minutes were approved as presented.

Guest Speakers

Parks and Recreation: Steven Meier

Steven Meier did not attend. Kristen explained that a caller claimed the city playgrounds are not accessible to his son, who is paralyzed from the neck down. There are swings that look like large boxes that a wheelchair can roll into, but the City risk assessment won't allow it because it would be abused when not in use by a person with a disability. The law does not require that level of specification. Rob Gilkerson sent two links that Kristen hasn't looked at yet. Heather had questions about another playground. Steven Meier said that most of the playgrounds are made accessible as they are remodeled. El Centro Sol is more recent. St. Anne's in Fulton Heights is City property and is being made accessible. The caller did not come to the meeting, but Kristen will keep him informed. Heather had a problem with the ground cover on a playground she took pictures of. It looks like soft ground covering she would get stuck in, but it is legal according to Public Works.

Handicapped Parking: Joseph Sancites

There are 3 volunteers working right now. There will be a new Volunteer Coordinator soon. When no one had specific questions, Joe asked if there were places we had problems with. Members said it was mainly parking at the big box stores. Joe said he goes out from 10:00 to 6:00. There is no set schedule, volunteers go out as they can. Southside King Soopers is very difficult to enforce because the spaces have been painted over so often it's hard to tell where the lines are. He is trained to take photographs of the front, the placard, and the back to present in court. So far he hasn't had to defend a ticket.

Guest Speaker: Sara Rose

Sara passed out the new flyers for the event. Center for Disabilities is working on the booths, which will feature disability experiences. The speaker will also talk about employment and how people adapt and problem solve. Lunch will be boxed. Tickets are 5 in advance and 8 at the door. Scholarships are needed if any of us want to sponsor. Heather wants to be sure autism and sensory disabilities are included. Everything is set up. Ted asked if PDI and ARC were included. Kristen asked about Friendly Harbor.

Guest Speaker: Mary Beth Roth/Ralph McPherson

Ralph was contacted about the City ordinance on fishing at City facilities. It now reads that it is open "...to wheel chair invalids." It was agreed that this is offensive terminology. Limiting it to wheelchair users is also exclusionary. The best thing would be to limit it to anyone up to 15 and use "people with disabilities" in place of "invalids."

City Updates: Joe Martellaro for Sam Vigil

All the curb ramps and street paving on Santa Fe is done. Construction on Broadway is ongoing. Curb ramps on Greenwood from 13th-15th is in the process. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding does cover historical sites, but it costs a lot more because there are environmental assessments etc. included. Heather put in curb ramp requests from 24th and Court to Mineral Palace Park along Court.

County: Bart Mikitowicz

Bike maps are done and Bart will be delivering them. Bike plans are also moving forward. There are hundreds of routes and policies to go through and edit down.

Effective Communication: Dale

Dale is working with Pueblo Community Health Center and they have to work through their new phone system so it doesn't put a deaf caller on hold before the interpreter can answer. They also need a buzzer as with a restaurant for people who cannot see or hear them.

Service Animals

Dale says Pueblo Community Health Center (PCHC) also asked about what they cannot do about dogs to identify which ones are genuine service dogs.

Chairperson's Report

All members are encouraged to join the ADA awareness event at the library on Saturday July 21.

The meeting closed at 3:00 pm.

Next Work Session: Thursday August 9, 2018, El Pueblo History Museum, 1-3

Next Meeting: Thursday September 5, El Pueblo History Museum, 301 North Union, 1-3

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