

PACOG/City of Pueblo ADA Advisory Committee

Meeting minutes

September 07, 2023

1:00-3:00 pm

Center Toward Self-Reliance

Attendance: Andy Sanchez, Charles Roy, Todd Berisford, Kent Tompkins, Chris Kregel, Ron Sasaoka, Joshua Johnson, Bryan Gallagher, Susan Lindeman, Alexis Romero Stewart, Tura Cowan, Don Bruestle, Deborah MacIlroy, Bob Long, Elizabeth Harnes, Jennifer Thornton, Rita Gonzales, Tiffany Garcia, Sharon Campbell, Laura Leyba

Zoom: Sonja Baker, Kelly Grisham

Absent: Maryagnes Leonard

Call To Order: Sharon called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Roll Call: Introductions were done by everyone attending in person.

Approval of Minutes from last meeting: The August meeting minutes were not ready due to problems that Tura had viewing them. Chuck said he would have Kelly Grisham transcribe them into a document for Tura to summarize.

Guest Speaker: Andy Sanchez, Sangre de Cristo Arts & Conference Center, will create a Community Advisory Committee and schedule a walk audit with us. He said the elevator will be replaced in 2024. Elizabeth will connect with him about her nonprofit for youth with autistic spectrum.

City Report: Chuck updated us on the construction of Prairie Avenue, the streets surrounding the State Fairgrounds, and other projects. Laura asked when the ADA transition plan was done and he guessed around 2006. Laura asked when a re-assessment will be done and Chuck didn't know. Laura asked for a hard copy of the original transition plan and Chuck said he would find it and give her one. Bryan Gallagher said it should be on the Department of Justice website. Chuck told Tura that he will schedule a time to do a walk audit of Union Avenue with her because of her complaint about ADA access to some of the businesses.

County Report: Nobody from the County attended.

Transit Report: Kent said their brochure has been updated. The free bus fare for June, July, and August was a success, and they got a grant to provide free bus service for students for this year. He said they also have 2 new CitiLift buses. Kris said they are short staffed again.

Tura asked about buying a pass online and having it mailed. Kent said that is possible. Tura asked if they could combine with CitiLift so people could use either or both services, but Kent & Kris said the way it is now, that isn't possible because of different fare prices. Kent said they might be able to accomplish this in the future. Laura suggested a debit card for both services.

Laura asked when the quarterly safety training would be, and Kent said they had it already. Deborah said she would connect with Elizabeth, Jennifer, and Tura to do sensitivity training for the bus drivers at a future training session.

Emergency Management Report:

Ron said the County Health Department noticed an increase in influenza, COVID, and other viruses. He said they have some tests and masks available for nonprofits, but not enough for the entire public in general.

Josh said the mass casualty exercise went well, although there were communication problems. Tura attended, but didn't submit a waiver in time to participate. He said the next one will be on the first Wednesday in May 2024. He needs the waiver submitted 2 weeks before.

Cañon City Report: Sonja said she attended the Whitewater Festival and it wasn't ADA accessible. She and Rob Gilkerson are working with them to make it accessible. Sonja said she was told that Red Canyon Park was ADA accessible, but it isn't, so she joined the Red Canyon Trail Committee to help them make it accessible.

Old Business:

Tura said she went to the Ice Arena to ask about having the September work session there and felt like they weren't very welcoming to her. Laura told Tura that she asked Daphne Artichoker previously and Daphne said they were too busy on that day.

Don discussed the lack of enough ADA accommodation devices at public meetings, such as microphones for the public to use. New committee member Bob Long said he is hearing impaired and couldn't hear half of what was said at today's meeting, although he wears hearing aids.

Laura said it was 2:55 pm and the meeting would end before we finished discussing everything on the agenda, so Sharon called a vote to continue our discussion at the next meeting. All were in favor of adjourning the meeting at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted for Secretary Tura Cowan,

Laura Leyba, co-chair