

Pueblo and PACOG ADA Advisory Committee
December 07, 2023 Meeting Minutes
Center Toward Self-Reliance, 901 W 8th St, Pueblo, CO 81003

I. Call to order

II. Attendance:

Sharon Campbell, Chairperson ADA Advisory Committee; Laura Leyba, Vice Chairperson ADA Advisory Committee ; Tura Cowan, Secretary ADA Advisory Committee; Don Bruestle, ADA Advisory Committee member; Rita Gonzales, ADA Advisory Committee member; Tiffany Garcia, ADA Advisory Committee member; Jennifer Thornton, ADA Advisory Committee member; Bob Long, ADA Advisory Committee member; Kent Tompkins, Transit; Joshua Johnson, Emergency Management Coordinator, Pueblo County Sheriff's Office; Dylan Goodman, PACOG Metropolitan Planning Organization Planner; Dominick Johnson, guest speaker Mariposa Center For Safety.

Zoom attendees:

Charles Roy, Pueblo ADA Coordinator; Deborah MacIlroy, ADA Advisory Committee member; Justin Hiniker, Director of Student Advocacy, Access, and Support - Colorado State University - Pueblo; Lexi Stewart, Housing; Kathy Madril.

Absentees:

Weston Burrer, Chris Kregel, Sonja Baker, Mary Agnes Leonard, and Elizabeth Harnes.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting: Committee approved November meeting minutes.

IV. City Reports Chuck Roy:

- a) Chuck reports they are at the end of the season. All paving has been completed for the year.
- b) The ongoing activities include ADA ramps and the concrete improvements along South Prairie Ave.

Right now, they are on Prairie and Jones headed north and will go all the way up to Northern. Then they'll turn around and come back down to Jones. Then that will complete the concrete work there, and that contractor will jump back over to Court Street.

- c) Contractors have completed 24th and 23rd at the intersections on Court and they'll continue all the way to City Center.
- d) Up in University Park area, there are some cross walks that are broken that are getting replaced.
- e) At the start of January, we're going out for the concrete improvements on Elizabeth and we're going to break this project up into 2 phases.
 - i) Phase 1 will go from City Center to 16th Street.

- ii) Phase 2 will go from 17th street all the way to Highway 50.
 - f) Improvements are happening along Elizabeth and that's obviously in preparation for us to pave it in 2025.
 - g) Concrete improvements on Cheyenne between 19th and 27th.
 - h) Working on getting the design put together for concrete improvements on 29th, and that'll be from the railroad tracks all the way to I-25.
 - i) Don asked about Elizabeth between 13th and 8th regarding a crown stating it falls off significantly. He asked if the city could take a look.
- i) Chuck said they would have a look at it to see what they could do about it.
 - j) Laura asked the status of the wheelchair lift at the Ice Arena and Chuck stated it was still on order and hasn't arrived yet.
- i) Laura asked about an ADA ramp on the east side of the building where they are putting in a new patio and bar area. Chuck was going to investigate this as he was not familiar.
 - k) Rita mentioned that there was an issue with access to the bathrooms at the police department, and that the door was too heavy. Chuck will investigate further and investigate options for that.

v. County Report: Weston Burrer: A representative from the County was not present to provide any updates.

VI. City Transit: Kent Tompkins

- a) Kent thanked Elizabeth, Tura, and Debra for attending their safety meeting and providing awareness and etiquette tips for working with those patrons with disabilities.
- b) Pueblo Transit has implemented a code of conduct for passengers and is posting it to the website. Kent provided a copy to the committee for review and stated it mirrored RTD's policy.

VII. Emergency Management

- a) Joshua Johnson (PCSO) reports that things have been relatively quiet lately.
 - i) They (agencies around the county) have been busy – but nothing major over the last month.
 - ii) There was a Search and Rescue (SAR) mission that lasted about 7 hours, but luckily, it had a good ending, and the family was safely rescued.
 - iii) The next major exercises in the County are scheduled for May and August, but he'll give more details about those as we get closer.
- b) Laura asked how fire/police/EMS might handle or rescue someone in a wheelchair on the upper floor of a tall(er) building – something like the library.
 - i) Josh answered that each company – private, public, for-profit/non-profit *should* have some evacuation policies and protocols to help get clients/visitors out of the building if the elevators went down.
 - ii) Fire departments have specialty tools that can help move people down from an upper floor– stair-chairs, tarps, slides, etc., as well as ladders that can be used to help take people out of windows from the outside – as a last resort – if that was necessary.
 - iii) The essential thing is for first responders to know that there is someone with a disability trapped on a higher floor who needs help. That could be through phone calls to 911, a friend, or staff members at the location – i.e., the library.
 - iv) A discussion was held with members about various companies – including Walmart – having regular fire drills and staff having to be trained to assist guests/clients/visitors/shoppers out of the building

in an emergency. Multiple members around the table confirmed their workplace mandates similar training.

- v) Laura would like to see about approaching the library and asking to participate in their next staff evacuation drill.

VIII. Old Business

Reports:

Business Community Outreach committee:

Tiffany Garcia had nothing to report

Dylan Goodman, PACOG Metropolitan Planning Organization Planner

- a) Small update just regarding our MMOF transportation funding, federal grant that we receive every year to then give out 2 different projects around the county and the city to prioritize multi modal transit.
 - i) Deadline for funding has been extended. The ADA committee and other stakeholders will be represented at the planning meetings where they will draft a complete streets policy.
 - b) Chili and frijole Festival
- i) Deborah met with a vendor, and they discussed the issue of cords and trip hazards. The vendor was appreciative of the feedback and would work on this. Deborah suggested the committee reach out to other vendors also.
- ii) Porta-johns accessibility was brought up and it was discussed that the Chamber of Commerce was looking into accessible facilities for next year.

X) Vote on budget: Updated budget had not been received. Elizabeth was not present at meeting. This item will be moved to the next meeting.

XI) Report on which logo got the most votes: This would be provided by Elizabeth also and will be moved to next meeting.

IX. New Business:

- a) Nominations for next year's officers on the Committee.
 - i) Sharon nominated Laura Leyba as Chairperson and Tura Cowan as Vice Chairperson.
 - (1) Committee took a vote and confirmed Laura as Chairperson and Tura as Vice Chairperson.
 - ii) Jennifer offered to trial as Secretary for December, and in January will let the committee know if it was doable and if she would like to take it on. The committee agreed.
- b) Laura provided all committee members with the bylaws and requested everyone read them and make suggestions for updates.

X. Guest speakers

Dominick Johnson from Mariposa Center For Safety

- a) Dominick introduced himself and discussed all the services that Mariposa offers to the community.
- i) Questions were asked about accessibility to the safe housing and Dominick stated that although it was a 2-story building, everything anyone would need is available on the main level.
- ii) Sharon asked what kinds of disabilities they cater to with the clients. At this point it is mostly those with mobility issues. They can provide appropriate and accessible transportation.
- iii) Mariposa is currently seeking funding from the community service advisory committee.
- iv) Justin Hiniker stated he has done a presentation for staff at Mariposa about disabilities, also.
- v) Laura and Don asked questions about the 1 million dollar grant available to Mariposa and what it would be used for. Mariposa is seeking public input and will spread the money throughout the entire program.
- vi) Sharon mentioned individuals with invisible disabilities such as autism, mobility, hearing, and vision impairments and how Mariposa accommodates them. Sharon stated that the ADA committee could be a resource for best practices of communicating and accommodating those individuals.

Transcribed by Jennifer Thornton

Next meeting: January 4th 2024