

Present: Kristen Castor, secretary; George O'Brien, co-chair; Jean Benfield, vice-chair, Shanna Farmer, guest; Ralph McPherson, co-chair, Tina Armstrong, guest; Kip Morphew, Facilities Manager, City of Pueblo; Laura Whittrup, Pueblo Police Department (PPD) Dispatch; Gary M. Micheli, Pueblo Fire Department; Shanna Farmer; Community Based Research Coordinator, CSU-Pueblo; Troy Davenport; Deputy Chief, Pueblo Police Department (PPD); Bill Zwick, Landscape Architect, City of Pueblo; June A. Akeo, member; Tammy Dicke, guest; Sam Vigil, Engineer Manager, City of Pueblo.

Approval of the Minutes

Minutes were approved with the correction that the amount for acquiring land for a new library on the last line of page 2 should read \$200,000.00, not \$200.000.
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Dispatch Update: Laura Whittrup

The special needs registry is designed to give information to dispatch about special needs a person might have, especially mobility needs, and information about key location. It must now be printed out, but cannot be filled on line because legally a signature is required. Dispatch is looking into how this might be done online in the future.

Dispatch has printed and laminated placards for people who are deaf or hearing impaired to place under the visor of their vehicles to identify themselves to officials in the event they are stopped for any reason. They also have an IDs available, separate from their driver's license, so that they are not target by people who happen to see their license. The back of the placard has instructions for police on effective communication.

There is an email address that comes to a laptop in the Com center. It doesn't relay address and phone number as a 911 call does. It is only for people who cannot use 911. It is not really a text system. For a test, call Laura and she will supervise the testing. The laptop is very small and is carried from station to station by a specific operator to ensure it stays with someone trained on how to use it. Sharon Campbell added that it is possible to provide interpreting by video conferencing, but this has to be done by contract.

Gary Micheli suggested that this kind of emergency information be posted inside the house, possibly on the refrigerator where Emergency Medical Technicians are trained to look for medical information. Tina Armstrong suggested that a personal card the size of a business card with pertinent information should be something any of us could put on the refrigerator.

PPD Update: Troy Davenport, Deputy Chief for Patrol and Traffic

Captain Kenny Ryder is the officer in charge of the volunteer program. He is in training at the FBI National Academy and will return in September when the volunteer program starts up. There is also clerical work that volunteer civilians can do. There is a citizens' academy starting up August 7. It includes ride along opportunities. Deputy Chief (DC) Bennett oversees training, which occurs on a quarterly basis.

Fire Department: Gary Micheli

Chief Riley and Deputy Chief Villiers are in negotiations with the union. There is training available on fire safety as requested, including a presentation about the Waldo Canyon fire. Ralph McPherson said the most critical part of the newscast about this fire was that an interpreter was always signing alongside the reporter so that the deaf community had access to the same communication. Sharon Campbell said it was not captioned. This needs to be brought to the attention of the broadcaster because there are significantly more people with hearing impairment who also need access to critical news updates.

George O'Brien clarified that his intent is that the Fire Department should participate in the Emergency Registry so that all first responders have access to this data base. That is different from the traditional fire safety presentation that the department has available. Officer Micheli confirmed that this request needs to go to Chief Riley.

Sharon Campbell will look for posters with basic medical sign language. This would go to Chris Harner, the training coordinator. Tina Armstrong pointed out that evacuation plans are critical for people with special needs. This also is a training issue for ordinary citizens. Ralph said the critical thing about Waldo was that an interpreter was always standing next to the speaker.

Officer Micheli added that in Britain, the fire department inspects homes as well as businesses and this has greatly reduced the number of people who die in house and apartment fires.

Memorial Hall Update: Bill Zwick

The site plan for Memorial Hall did not change. There are five handicapped spaces and a loading zone. There are bathrooms available on every level, although some will be accessed by the elevator in City Hall. Blue on the diagrams passed around is for restrooms, green is for ramps, yellow is for crew quarters. There is a freight elevator in addition to the passenger elevator in City Hall. There is a ramp to the orchestra pit and the elevator to other levels. The Stage Level includes accessible restrooms as there are on every floor. The ramp on the north side of the building was not absolutely necessary to achieve access, so it was taken out as a cost saving measure. The Department of Justice is satisfied with the south access.

Wheelchair seating is interspersed also by value of tickets. This is an area that the Rocky Mountain ADA Center can provide workshops on. Sam Vigil has read the new regulations.

Per code, the restrooms cannot be separated by one floor. There are handicapped restrooms on every floor, except for the balcony. The control booth for lights is not accessible and the Committee agreed that by nature the job of the light projector requires mobility.

Tina Armstrong asked about family restrooms. It might be possible to provide one at City Hall. There are elevators in the back of the Hall for every floor. The city will be selling items taken out of the existing hall, such as seats, to recoup funding. The project is also seeking private donations or grants for some of the fine points, like acoustic windows. A fundraising campaign will kick off in August.

Annual Report: Kristen Castor

There were no revisions to the text. It was agreed that the additional pictures of curb ramp and landscaping be included on a separate sheet.

Adjournment

The meeting ended about 2:45 allowing members to participate in the first of two public hearings for changes to Pueblo Transit.

The next meeting is August 2 at El Pueblo History Museum from 1-3.

The next work session is August 16th at SRDA from 1-3.