

Pueblo and PACOG ADA Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
March 7, 2013

Present: Kristen Castor, Secretary; George O'Brien, Co-Chair; John Madrid, member; Mary Good, CSU-Pueblo; Ron Burke, member; Shelbi Lee, CSU-Pueblo; Kip Morphew, City of Pueblo; Kimberly Caple, CSU-Pueblo; Dale Villiers, Pueblo Fire Department; Shawn Winters, Pueblo West; Jean Benfield, Vice-Chair; Jo Booms, Communication Assistant; Kay Jamison, Deaf Gathering; Tina Armstrong, member; Sharon Campbell, member; Bob Quintana, Public Works; Sam Vigil, Public Works; Don Bruestle, member; June Akeo, member; Stephanie Williams, guest, Dr. Wakefield, CSU-Pueblo.

The meeting was called to order at 1:03.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved as presented.

The Agenda was amended to allow guest speakers to present first.

Fire Department: Chief Chris Riley

Dale Villiers and Chief Riley are committed to meeting the needs of the disability population in the event of a disaster. There are limited resources. There are 10 fire stations and 43 fire fighters on duty to date. It requires 15 fire fighters to respond to a house-fire by way of example about manpower needs. The chief wants to be sure we know who he is and how committed he is to our needs, but also why the response may not meet our expectations.

Kay wants to be sure that response includes text messaging and noted that Video Remote Interpreting is available. George would like to see that Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS) be adopted to meet this need. Sharon identified access to oxygen, insulin and medications as problems.

Most of these issues have been presented to the Local Emergency Planning Committee. Resolving them is extremely difficult because all of the responders involved are at capacity now and cannot manage an emergency surge.

| |
|--|
| The next meeting with Deaf Gathering is April 11, 2013 at Wesley United Methodist Church at 85 Stanford beginning with a potluck at 6:00 pm. |
|--|

CSU Sidewalk Project: Dr. Wakefield, Shelbi Lee, Mary Good, Kimberly Cable

Shelbi explained that the goal is to develop a tool that will help the city assess the condition of sidewalks. There is a test area established to check a list of conditions and put the results on a GPS device.

George suggested posting the findings on a Google Drive. Shelbi cautioned that the students are only responsible for developing the tool. The city will have to decide how to use it. Sam said it will interface with the GIS and Asset Management software the city already has.

Sam repeated that this project is limited to the test area and the development of the tool. It does not mesh completely with the Health Department Health Disparities grant, but does meet some of the goals.

The survey will address safety, ADA compliance, and drainage among many other factors.

Plaza Verde Park: Sam Vigil, Bob Quintana

The city has acquired funding to tie in the sidewalk from the park to the Fountain Creek Trail System from the levy down to the river trail. There will be a plaza next to the restroom and a playground with landscaping along the trail and a viewing area. There are concerns with the grade leading 13 feet from the levy to the trail. The proposal is for an 8% grade following the draft guidelines for outdoor areas now before the Access Board. This is intended for outdoor trails on federal land. This is the first phase of the Fountain Creek Greenway Project. The existing trail partly follows an old railroad and the grade to that is 10%, which has had to be filled in to make it 8%.

The second phase will be between 6th and 7th on Erie connecting to El Quinto Sol and the new skate board park. From 5th to 6th will be two way, but parts will be blocked off or made one way.

Ron asked that access to the trail head not be blocked with parking. George asked that the grade be signed so that people could make their best decision about whether it was safe for them to use.

| |
|--|
| <p>The consensus was that an 8% grade is acceptable for outdoor areas where the grade cannot be ameliorated as long as people are aware of the potential difficulty in using it.</p> |
|--|

Handicapped Parking Patrol

Kristen has a copy of the Code in the City Charter that applies to the Parking Patrol, but it doesn't mention the patrol by name or what duties volunteers assume. The current volunteer program is designed for volunteers to assume almost any of the duties that can be performed by civilians so that trained officers can be deployed more efficiently.

County Updates

Transit

Kristen reported that the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is tasked with providing services statewide. When the Front Range Express closed down, CDOT took a closer look at providing service to commercial passengers along the I-25 and I-70 corridors. The proposal is to purchase lift equipped busses with bathrooms and contract the operations out to providers. Tickets would cost .12 to .15 cents a mile to make them affordable, which would make the commute from Colorado Springs to Denver about \$10.00.

There were obvious concerns about how CDOT could succeed where FREX failed. CDOT pointed out that FREX was re-couping 47% of its investment from the fare box, which is an unusually high ratio. CDOT is planning on a 50% return with a continuing investment of 50%. In order to continue operating, FREX needed support from five governmental entities, which is always politically difficult. This is why CDOT sees this as a state concern.

There are also questions about whether CDOT should be involved in mass transit at all. It does have a legislative directive to provide statewide services. The money comes from the Funding Advancement for Surface Transportation and Economic Recovery Act (FASTER) for statewide projects and does not reduce the funding available for area projects.

Pueblo West: Shawn Winter

There are two trail systems tying into McCullough and Purcell that are major paths of travel and need to be made accessible. Public Works in Pueblo West approves such projects along with access and drainage for commercial use. Parking lots and paths of travel are approved by Pueblo County, so his office does not have jurisdiction over all of the issues we may raise.

Chairperson's Report

George would like to see a public contest in emergency preparation to encourage individual citizen readiness. He also asked about the code requirements for hardwiring smoke detectors and fire alarms. Chief Villiers said new construction or remodeling that requires a permit will trigger the requirement that such devices be hard wired. Otherwise, existing homes rely on battery powered devices, if any.

New Business: Pueblo Zoo

Sharon expressed concern that the Pueblo Zoo is reopening the old Bear Pit, which is not accessible, as a bird exhibit. She suggests we visit it when it is opened for review. Chief Villiers said that Monkey Mountain was part of that and has been made accessible. Sharon said this sounds like the original bear pits.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Pueblo and PACOG ADA Advisory Committee is Thursday April 4 from 1-3 at the El Pueblo History Museum.

The next work session is Thursday March 21 from 1-3 at the El Pueblo History Museum.