

Pueblo and PACOG ADA Advisory Committee

Minutes of the Meeting

October 3, 2013

Present: Terry Skinner, guest; June Akeo, member; Lisa Shorter, Emergency Operations; Sam Vigil, Public Works; Don Bruestle, member; Ralph McPherson, co-chair; Kip Morphew, Facilities Manager; Bill Edward, Center for Disabilities; Larry Williams, member; Ron Burke, member; George O'Brien, co-chair; John Madrid, member; Ada Clark, Housing and Citizen Services; Earl Wilkinson, ADA Coordinator; Steven Meier, Parks and Recreation; Jean Benfield, vice-chair; Ed Brown, City Council; Kristen Castor, secretary

The meeting was called to order at 1:02

Minutes were approved as presented.

Emergency Preparation: Lisa Shorter: County Public Information Officer

The sheriff's office is divided into three parts: detention, enforcement, and emergency preparation. Lisa brought flyers on basic supplies for emergency kits. The county is opening its registry for people with functional needs. It will locate people, identify their equipment, put messages in Spanish, and it includes latchkey kids. It does not guarantee a response. It is in the CAD system as an overlay and not part of 211. There is a county number (583-6200) to call for help registering. People in the city can also register with the county. Lisa's direct line is 583-6222.

George asked if we could do a small drill with some kind of reward to verify that communication takes place. Lisa said maybe a drill like that could be done by phone.

There will be a call taker center at the new EOC along with the Operations Center and the CSEPP.

Parks and Recreation: Steven Meier

No money had been budgeted for improvements in Mineral Palace and City Park, but the budget requests are in for this year. The priority is access to the Administrative Offices at City Park and the dock at Joy Lake and the

restrooms. The dog parks will be accessible. Access up to the caboose at the Kiddie Rides will take creative engineering to get over the railroad tracks. Picnic areas are being assessed and improvements will start with pavilions.

The flower gardens in Mineral Palace are easily made accessible and the pavilion has been assessed. There will be a new attraction, bringing back the lily pond as a serenity garden and it will also be accessible

Kristen asked if we could sponsor some wheelchair/sled hockey at the Ice Arena.

Ada Clark said there is money available for archery, which is more popular since The Hunger Games.

Citizens Advisory Committee for CDBG: ADA Clark

City Council wants to reduce the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) award for curb ramps from 400,000 to 300,000 in order to spend more on demolishing condemned homes. The cost goes on to the lien holder and is only sold for taxes if the owner doesn't pay taxes.

December 9th is the final reading and public hearing for the 2014 CDBG action plan.

In the spirit of collaborating in the budget constraints everyone is undergoing, we agree to forego \$100,000 in CDBG funding for curb ramps in order to allow for more demolitions of condemned buildings in the fiscal year of 2014. We are concerned that this will result in an on-going trend and we note that there is no other funding for curb ramps.

The above motion carried unanimously.

Regional Building

It was agreed that we need to talk with Regional Building about related issues and give them a list of our concerns and more time to schedule with us.

- Handicapped signs that come down after they are installed.
- Merging ADA Guidelines with ANSII.

- Monitoring for ADA compliance without the square footage requirement.
- Encouraging visitability and access in homes. Ron wants to adopt the slogan "homes for heroes."

City Updates

The Bessemer Association for Neighborhood Development (BAND) curb ramp request and sidewalk project is ready to advertise. The list has to be pared down because there wasn't enough money for the whole thing. It's mostly repair this year.

The CDBG curb ramp project follows this. There are some areas along Northern where the building entrance and the curb ramps are in conflict.

Plaza Verde will be accessible with accessible playgrounds.

County Updates

Weston Burrer sent a message that DSS is still in limbo and the self-evaluation of county facilities, programs and services is ongoing

Regional Transportation Authority (RTA)

Kristen and George met with two of the four students working on an RTA project. The goal is to come up with a description of what an RTA is, what it would take to create one here, how it would be structured and how it could be funded.

Chairpersons Report

George asked Kristen to describe what she has been doing with emergency task forces addressing the flooding in Boulder and the surrounding area. There are two task forces. The Disaster Housing Task Force is put together by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs to help people get housing after a disaster. The Disability Task Force is part of the FEMA response. So far, the issues have been getting good captioning and access to interpreters for the deaf, helping non-traditional shelters such as churches understand how to respond to access issues and service animals. There was one woman from Estes Park who needed housing closer to her dialysis center for the winter because the roads have been closed. This was difficult to do because

her home was not damaged. All of the individuals brought to our attention have gotten their needs met.

In this disaster, the Independent Living Centers and the disability community have been involved from the beginning.

Ralph reported that during the summer festival season, several shops put things out on the sidewalk and Ralph cannot get down Union Avenue.

Earl advised him to call Karen Wilson for code enforcement and he will talk to her about it as well.

We could also contact the Union Avenue Business Association and the City Center Partnership about barrier free sidewalk displays.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50.

The next work session is Thursday October 17 at the El Pueblo History Museum from 1-3.

The next regular meeting is Thursday November 7 at the El Pueblo History Museum.

Anyone needing accommodation should contact Earl Wilkinson at 553-2295 a week in advance of the meeting.