



Agenda

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MAYOR'S COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2011

10:00 A.M.

GENOVEVA CHAVEZ COMMUNITY CENTER

3221 RODEO RD.

CLASSROOM I

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: APRIL 21, 2011
5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (15 MIN. TOTAL)
6. OLD BUSINESS
 - a) MCD SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - b) TRANSITION PLAN PUBLIC INPUT UPDATE - JOE LUJAN
 - c) COMMUNITY DAYS - RONDA VILLA
7. NEW BUSINESS
 - a) MCD WEB SITE DEVELOPMENT - RONDA VILLA
8. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS AND STAFF (3 MINUTES)
9. ADJOURN

NEXT MEETING JUNE 16, 2011

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN NEED OF ACCOMMODATIONS, CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT 955-6520, FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO MEETING DATE.

THIS IS A FRAGRANCE FREE MEETING

****Please notify Ronda Villa, Chair at 570-9084 and/or Joe Lujan, ADA Coordinator/Liaison, at 955-4021 if you are unable to attend.**

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CITY OF SANTA FE
MAYOR'S COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY**

MAY 19, 2011

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CALL TO ORDER		
ROLL CALL	Quorum	1
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Approved	1
APPROVAL OF MINUTES April 21, 2011	Approved	1
PUBLIC COMMENTS	None	2
OLD BUSINESS		
a) MCD Sub-Committee Reports	Discussed	2-4
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NEW BUSINESS		
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MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR'S COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

May 19, 2011

A scheduled meeting of the Mayor's Committee on Disability was called to order by Ronda Villa, Chair, on this date at approximately 10:00 a.m. at Genoveva Community Center, 3221 Rodeo Road, Classroom 1, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

A quorum was indicated as follows:

Members Present:

Ronda Villa, Chair
Buddy Hayes
Dee Martinez
Mary McGinnis
Dave McQuarie
Nancy Pieters
Lois Simms

Members Excused:

Marcia Bowman, Vice Chair
Margaret Kuhlen

Members Absent:

Staff Present:

Joe Lujan, Staff Liaison

Others Present:

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. McQuarie moved to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Martinez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –APRIL 21, 2011

Ms. Pieters said she had questions about the minutes and wanted to discuss the part when Robert Romero presented the update on the Transition Plan. She read from the minutes and said she found Mr. Romero's reply to be very general, broad and with no specifics. She felt the Committee did not get answers to their questions.

Chair Villa said that was substantive. She asked the Committee to approve the minutes before the discussion of the Transition Plan.

Page 4, second paragraph was corrected to read "Mr. Lujan said he received the final draft."

Ms. Simms moved to approve the Minutes of April 21, 2011 as amended. Mr. McQuarie seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

OLD BUSINESS

a) MCD Sub-Committee Reports

° Task Force.- Lois Simms

Ms. Simms said she, Mr. McQuarie and Ms. Reed would meet the following week regarding the Transition Plan and she would have more to report after the meeting. She said she and Mr. Lujan did the radio show with the Mayor the previous week and talked about the Transition Plan.

She asked if the information was in the newspaper because she hadn't seen it. Mr. Lujan replied he would make a call immediately regarding that.

Mr. McQuarie said supposedly the radio and television interviews were taped and would be presented three or four times. He said the radio show was presented Saturday morning; he asked when the other times were. He called city hall and they didn't know.

Chair Villa said Mr. Lujan could address that when he returned.

° Transit Advisory Board (TAB)- Mary McGinnis

Ms. McGinnis provided information from the TAB meeting from a report received from Ms. Bleck (a member of Squeaky Wheels and the TAB.) A summary follows:

- TAB members had a retreat the previous month and the Mayor presented goals. Some of the goals such as the purchase of new buses, replacement vehicles or new vehicles for Santa Fe Ride or the multi-modal transit center have no federal or local funding.
- A grant award was pending for \$240,000 for ADA construction for the downtown Sheridan Center.
- The Transit Division is in negotiation with Santa Fe Place for an easement in the south parking lot for more transit and funding is available for the design and reconstruction.
- The bus shelters and purchase of additional shelters and benches would be done to have a more cohesive design; the designs were under review. Fabrication and installation would be paid by ARA money.
- The bus routes would be rearranged for the Rail Runner Zia station to make the connectivity.
- Additional services would be needed for the southwest sector because of the new Wal-Mart and enhanced outlet mall stores. The TAB committee idea to get the word out was a Bus Adventure Day with coupons; people would show a bus pass to go to the outlet malls etc.
- Regarding enhanced public communication- the need for increased public knowledge of transit service in the community and other services not operated by the City (regional transit) was discussed. The documents would need to be easily accessible and understood.
- TAB members had several ideas regarding apps (a mobile phone application that contains information on bus stops, routes, distance, ridership, etc.) for Bus Adventure Day.
- Two new TAB members were introduced; Ms. Bleck talked about her work with Squeaky Wheels and the resolution that started the TAB Advisory Committee.

- Jon Bulthuis commented the TAB Advisory Committee pushed the TAB Committee to recommend reasonable performance standards and reporting requirements to monitor system efficiency. Ms. Bleck mentioned her disappointment that the Customer Service Satisfaction Survey was still not completed and that Annette (Granillo) had continued to manage Santa Fe Ride. Ms. Bleck added she expected the feedback given to Annette to be on the March agenda and it wasn't. Aurore Bleck is an at-large member of TAB. Susan Masler is the Disability Representative and the chair of the Disability Committee that hasn't met for several months to get the surveys completed.

Ms. McGinnis said a woman she spoke with at New Vistas had received two speeding tickets. She was to be fined \$200- which she doesn't have and the woman wanted to do community service. The administrator of that program offered work at the senior center kitchen but the woman wasn't able to stand long periods on her feet.

Ms. McGinnis said she thought the woman might be able to work with Annette on the survey and called Mike Kelly about her idea. She hasn't heard back yet.

Chair Villa said the idea was very interesting but she wasn't sure that was within the purview of the MCD. She asked Ms. McGinnis to keep the Committee informed.

Mr. McQuarie asked Ms. McGinnis if she heard anything about Santa Fe Ride's proposed rate increase.

Ms. McGinnis said she had not but would attend the TAB meeting the following Tuesday.

Ms. Simms thanked Ms. McGinnis for a great report; Ms. McGinnis thanked Ms. Bleck for such a great job.

◦ Plan Review-Dave McQuarie

No plans were reviewed.

◦ Media – Marcia Bowman

Chair Villa said Ms. Simms and Mr. Lujan did a great job on the radio show with Mayor Coss.

Chair Villa said she and Mr. Lujan appeared the previous day on City Hall Live (channel 28) to talk about MCD. She said she thanked everyone on the task force of the Transition Plan but failed to thank Mr. Lujan. She said she should have said then, that Mr. Lujan was very much appreciated.

Chair Villa said she learned from the experience that it is difficult to find people to interview. She thought that could be an opportunity for the Committee to provide information on service animals, the website and how people could give and receive information. She asked the Committee to think about that.

The broadcast of City Hall Live on channel 28 was discussed. The station has no set schedule and Mr. Lujan agreed to e-mail everyone the next air time. Ms. Simms added that cable was needed to access the channel.

Ms. Martinez asked if the program could be on channel five (Public Broadcasting Channel) because everyone doesn't get cable.

Mr. Lujan said that would probably cost a lot of money. He advised Ms. Martinez to contact Joe Abeyta or Carla Lopez.

Ms. Martinez said if there was a DVD copy of the broadcast, the copy could be loaned out and that could be mentioned as an accommodation.

B. Transition Plan Public Input Update - Joe Lujan

Chair Villa asked Mr. Lujan about the 30 day notice sent to the newspaper that was required for the Transition Plan public hearing.

Mr. Lujan said he called Ms. Lopez and was waiting for a return call. He explained when the press release was sent to both newspapers (Albuquerque Journal and the Santa Fe New Mexican); the notice was sent at the same time.

Ms. Simms asked if the Santa Fe Reporter was utilized; the paper was free and a lot of people read it. Mr. Lujan replied that Ms. Lopez was the Public Information Officer but he would check into that.

Ms. Pieters brought up her concerns on the Transition Plan. She said she felt in reading the minutes that very specific questions asked of Robert Romero were not addressed. She said she wanted MCD to make a concerted effort to get as much information to the public to make use of the public hearing. Her concern was the hearing would happen and people wouldn't have a clue that it had or what the Transition Plan was about. She thought there should be a 1-2 page summary of the Transition Plan.

Ms. Pieters said after reading the three documents she couldn't find results or whether the self assessments were done. She said she later read in the press release that self assessments were conducted. She asked if the results were received.

Chair Villa said the self assessments were completed and incorporated into the Transition Plan rather than made a separate report.

Ms. Pieters said given that the Transition Plan needs someone to monitor and review the plan, another issue for her was Mr. Lujan's authority. The minutes stated that was on Mr. Lujan's shoulders. She said she found that a big job.

Ms. Pieters asked if the Committee could work with Mr. Lujan and put together a periodic way to review the plan. She said she wants specifics and found it difficult that benchmarks were not provided or a place that shows what the City has done so there was accountability.

Chair Villa explained that Mr. Lujan would have a database to add things that were completed. He would track items like the ADA completion of the stairs in City Council Chambers at City Hall and provide a periodic report to the Committee.

Ms. Martinez said the tracking and reporting was mentioned in the April minutes. She thought that was fantastic.

Ms. Pieters said she wants the public to understand what is happening and she wasn't sure whether the Committee should do a regular article in the newspaper like an ADA update, to show the City was on task.

Chair Villa confirmed Ms. Pieters concerns with her; the Executive Summary was too long and the press release too short (Ms. Pieters clarified not too short but not enough information); how the public would find out when progress was made and how that could be put out to the public; and was that the role of the Committee.

Ms. McGinnis said she noticed that the press release which was also the summary, does not mention any of the City accomplishments. She said a person reading the release could not get a sense of what has been and still needs to be done. She suggested language that was understandable and shows the positive things done and things that still need to be done.

Ms. Simms said to talk about things the City has done would take years. She said the priorities should be stated and the public should understand the effort was ongoing and would take time and money.

Mr. McQuarie said he has a problem when the Transition Plan update was talked about that the plan wasn't complete. He said Mr. Romero had agreed and stated that the Transition Plan "should apply to all facilities" and went on to say "the Transition Plan should be amended before it was finalized." He said "before it was finalized" was before the Council voted on it.

Mr. McQuarie said City Council could only vote on what Swanson has done which was 1/3 to 1/2 of what should have been done. He quoted federal regulations that state "this section shall apply only to the policies and practices that were not included in the previous self evaluation." The previous evaluation had not included about 80 buildings and 60 parks. He said Swanson was hired with a sampling and the City Staff was to be trained to pick up the slack.

Mr. McQuarie said he recalled an update mentioned the Committee would be involved in the development of a press release and they were not.

Ms. Simms said the ADA states they provide guidelines and that was what the Transition Plan started with.

Mr. McQuarie said in everything he read a Transition Plan was like a house plan; all of the data was developed to know what was needed and then priorities were decided. He asked how the data that would be used could be determined if the plan wasn't complete. He mentioned the convention center as an example and said the building was \$20 million and when they finished cost \$52 million. He said that put City Council at a disadvantage to say the bill was \$11 million and later the costs were \$28 million.

Mr. Lujan said most people don't know what a Transition Plan is and wasn't the City's responsibility to teach the community. The information was online and the plan was attached to the press release. He said the Committee has been involved since day one. His impression was some members felt that the City hadn't done anything and that was not the case.

Mr. Lujan said the press release was for the public input final portion prior to adoption of the Transition Plan. He asked the Committee to submit their questions to him to be addressed at the public hearing by Mr. Khambatta.

Mr. Lujan said he has worked hard on the plan with limited resources and felt the Committee was saying he hasn't done this correctly. He said the Transition Plan has been going on for a year and a half and had many opportunities for questions; Mr. Khambatta provided his contact information and has been available at all times.

Ms. Pieters said that wasn't what she was saying. She said she appreciates the work that has been done and Mr. Lujan did a lot to get that done. She said her concern now was for the work to mean something to people with disabilities and for them to know about and use the Transition Plan and the MCD to help make their lives better.

Mr. Lujan said the Transition Plan is the access to City facilities and City procedures and policies. He said he couldn't remember the last time he was questioned about access to a City facility that was denied. He said it would be interesting to see the response to the public input portion and how many attend the public hearing. The consultant has stated many times very few show up and people don't seem to be concerned about access to City facilities.

Mr. Lujan said this was a federal mandate and would not fall in the cracks; the City was subject to ADA requirements. He said the public hearing *was* the public outreach and the City tried to reach the greater community via television and radio interviews and the plans available at the libraries.

Mr. Lujan said every organization could be contacted but there was no way to know who would turn out or what they were interested in: if the grab bars at the main library, the soap dispenser out of spec by 4 inches, the sidewalk at City Hall cross slope 1% out of specification. He added he would individually contact New Vistas, the Commission for the Blind and the Commission for the Hearing Impaired.

Chair Villa said MCD wasn't sitting on its laurels either. She said over the last week the Committee has done Community Days and radio and television interviews. She suggested the Committee discuss the Transition Plan with people and said that would have more impact than a press release. She said the Committee should think about what could be done to get the word out; that was how things happen in Santa Fe.

Ms. Reed provided statistics: 25% of the population in New Mexico has a disability (higher than the national average.) The 2010 ADA standards online with the Department of Justice stated the nation has 50 million people with disabilities and 71 million baby boomers would be expecting accessibility. She said she talked with Katherine Lee about an article in the newspaper about the public hearing but she wasn't sure how that could happen.

Ms. Martinez said she attended the ADA Symposium the previous week. She said new information showed 54 million citizens have disabilities and represented an aggregate income of \$1 trillion and 220 million people travel with people with disabilities. People with disabilities take 31.7 million trips per year and spend a total of \$13.6 million annually.

Ms. Martinez suggested businesses be enlisted to help with a poster in their window, flyers, a City billing insert, etc.

Spanish radio and television stations were also suggested.

Chair Villa said the information should connect to the comments the City would want to hear at the public hearing related to the Transition Plan.

Mr. McQuarie said the best way to get public participation was to really stress the money; 60,000 people raised cane on the recent proposed tax increase. He said another way was two MCD members a week could write a letter to the editor and that would cover the four weeks before the public hearing.

Chair Villa said a letter to the editor was a great idea to express interest and say what the City has made progress in and people could be encouraged to attend and discuss their interests and review the plan. Ms. Pieters offered to write a letter to the editor.

Ms. Reed said the Governor's Commission on Disability planned a meeting to discuss ideas and the ADA Transition Plan. She said an additional meeting to discuss publicity would be held and a time hadn't been chosen.

Committee members discussed the publicity meeting and coordinated availability. The Committee decided the meeting would be Thursday, May 26 at the Governor's Commission on Disability in the Lamy Building. Everyone was invited that could attend.

The Committee discussed the letters to the editor and when approval was needed. Mr. Lujan suggested Chair Villa, Ms. Simms or he should review a letter that mentions the MCD or was on behalf of the MCD. The letter should then go through Carla Lopez since MCD was an official City committee. If MCD wasn't mentioned the letter could be written as a private citizen without prior review.

Mr. Lujan said the Transition Plan was accessible at all three libraries and the public hearing would be held June 15, from 5-7 p.m. in the Santa Fe Convention Center, second floor Nambe Room.

Mr. Lujan said in regard to the newspaper notice, Ms. Lopez called and said the City couldn't force the newspapers to include the article; if not included, a funding source might be needed. He said he hasn't received calls from reporters and they check the City website daily.

Mr. Lujan passed out the *Washington Update* provided by Ms. Simms. He displayed the book with the Barrier Assessment Survey and said the survey was available in his office.

Ms. Reed asked how she could get copies to add to her transition file.

Mr. Lujan said he could extract the facilities from the document that she requested and send them electronically. The press release states that sections of the Barrier Assessment are available. He said he had already explained to someone why the document wasn't online due to size and what the process was to get sections of the document.

Ms. Reed asked if there was an index or table of contents for the priority projects.

Mr. Lujan said all of that was in the Barrier Assessment Survey under Priority One, Severity Four for example. He said specifics were not listed; items were listed by the most intense use such as City Hall, the libraries, the recreation centers and then the barriers within those buildings.

Mr. Lujan acknowledged that areas were not included because the public doesn't go there or the facility was new and some noncompliant areas were missed. He said the Transition Plan was a living document and a road map to identify severity and what should be done by the City.

Ms. Pieters asked about getting a written summary of Swanson Architects presentation in writing before the hearing for use in articles in the newspaper, etc.

Ms. Reed agreed to call Mr. Khambatta regarding that and Mr. Lujan said he would also.

Ms. Martinez said the written information would be good to have for people who need large font or Braille.

Mr. Lujan said that was also mentioned in the press release.

C. Community Days – Ronda Villa

Not Discussed

NEW BUSINESS

a) MCD Web Site Development – Ronda Villa

Chair Villa reviewed the pages of the website. She gave an overview of the summary of the MCD and the link to the ADA Coordinator and how to contact him and links to ADA etiquette and disabilities; local, state and federal.

The Committee was asked to look at items in the unofficial guidebook that they want on the website soon and to contact Chair Villa or Mr. Lujan if anything was missing or a link was needed.

Ms. Hayes said only Assistance Dogs of the West was listed and Canine Companions (CCI) is a nationwide nonprofit that should be included. She said Assistance Dogs require money and CCI doesn't and just has a waiting list.

Chair Villa asked Ms. Hayes to send the information to her with a one line summary of the organization. She said the website also has the official document that created MCD. She pointed out that One Click was a way to send a complaint, comment or request to City Hall and funneled to the appropriate person for a response.

Ms. Martinez said she was really impressed with the website and Chair Villa's good work.

Mr. McQuarie suggested references to chairman or chairwoman language should be gender neutral.

Chair Villa said Ms. Bowman wants to push for Employment Disability Awareness Month in October but that shouldn't mean the Committee couldn't provide input in terms of public information. Chair Villa said that comments could be submitted to her.

ITEMS FROM MEMBERS AND STAFF

Mr. McQuarie said the City Land Use Department would make the parking ordinances into resolutions. He asked that someone work with him and take the lead to do best practices such as accessible marking for vans on the passenger's side. He said he was bothered that Land Use thought citizens would know about the resolutions from being on the Internet only.

Mr. Lujan clarified the information wasn't only on the Internet. He said a public hearing would also be done and announced with a press release.

Ms. Martinez said she met Jim Bradbury, the new director for the Santa Fe Convention Center. She said he was excited about the training her agency planned in conjunction with tourism and economic development, on disability awareness and ADA law for hotels, etc. Mr. Bradbury told her there was a possibility the Convention Center could have a resource list of accessibility of hotels, etc.

Ms. Martinez said there was so much new information in the ADA Symposium she attended she had inserted a lot of it into the Transition Plan. She said she also made calls regarding the United States Post Service (USPS) and Social Security, not allowing service animals and a memo had been sent stating service animals should be allowed. She also sent a letter regarding the USPS vans that parked in accessible parking spaces. The USPS sent out a memo and asked that the practice be stopped.

Mr. Lujan said he received an interesting article regarding the loophole and abuse of the law in the use of collars, harnesses, capes, the lack of identification and lack of requirements for service animals. He said that leads to gray areas used to violate the law and has been more abused than the plaques.

The committee discussed the gray area of the law. A suggestion was made to include a service animal discussion on the agenda.

NEXT MEETING: June 17, 2011

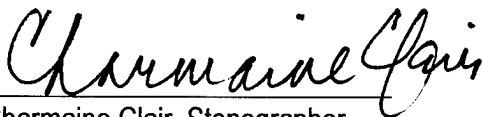
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct the meeting was adjourned at 12:01a.m.

Approved by:

Ronda Villa, Chair

Submitted by:



Charmaine Clair, Stenographer