



Agenda

DATE 3/11/13 TIME 2:39p

SERVED BY Joe Lujan

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**MAYOR'S COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY
THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2013
10:00 A.M.
GENOVEVA CHAVEZ COMMUNITY CENTER
3221 RODEO RD.
CLASSROOM 1**

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 17, 2013
(February 21, 2013 meeting cancelled)
5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (15 MIN. TOTAL)
6. OLD BUSINESS
 - a) MCD SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - b) AUTOMATIC DOOR OPENER UPDATE – JOE LUJAN
7. NEW BUSINESS
 - a) TELE-COIL LOOP ASSISTIVE LISTENING SYSTEM PRESENTATION – JOHN HOOPER
 - b) COMMUNITY DAYS DISCUSSION - MEMBERS
 - c) INFORMATION REQUEST DRAFT LETTERS – MARCIA BOWMAN/DAVE MCQUARIE
8. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS AND STAFF (3 MINUTES)
9. ADJOURN

NEXT MEETING APRIL 18, 2013

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 Marcia Bowman, Vice Chair at 438-4382 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**

MARCH 21, 2013

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MINUTES OF THE
MAYOR'S COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

March 21, 2013

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

Roll call indicated a quorum as follows:

Members Present:

Marcia Bowman, Vice Chair
Roberta Hunt (arrived later)
Charles Maynard
Ron Ortiz Dinkel
Dave McQuarie
Mary McGinnis
Nancy Pieters

Members Excused:

Courtney Asprodites
E. Meriam Jawhar

Staff Present:

Joe Lujan, ADA Coordinator

Members Absent:

Others Present:

John Hooper, Tele-Coil Loop
Elaine Almquist, Tele-Coil Loop
Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

The MCD Committee members introduced themselves and provided their background.

Mr. Lujan welcomed the new MCD members. He said it has been a while since there has been a full nine member committee. He thanked the members for their interest and congratulated them on their appointment. Ms. Bowman welcomed the members as well.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. McQuarie noted the parking sign review wasn't carried forward and asked that be on the agenda as soon as possible. Mr. Lujan explained the item is planned for the next meeting. He said it was not on the agenda this month because Anthony Alarid was not available.

Mr. McQuarie moved to approve the Agenda as published. Ms. Peters seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 17, 2013

Under the meeting heading: *Ms. Villarreal* actually chaired the meeting, not Marcia Bowman, vice chair.

Mr. McQuarie moved to approve the Minutes of January 17, 2013 as amended. Ms. Peters seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Barbara Fix said a Tele-Coil loop should have been brought to the meeting as an example of how good the Loop is.

OLD BUSINESS

a) MCD Sub-Committee Reports

° Transportation Report- Ms. McGinnis

Ms. McGinnis said previously she expressed concern whether Santa Fe Ride customers had received a letter that explained the No Show policy. She has since received a letter and would assume others did as well.

She said a good thing was that when her Santa Fe Ride card expired, she was able to receive an interview to replace it quickly. She said also she received the outline for the senior transportation training, but wasn't able to do a personal synopsis and would get to it soon.

Ms. McGinnis said TAB had no meeting in February, but she would attend next week's meeting. She was unofficially invited to be a member of the disability subcommittee. She said if voted in, she hoped to encourage meeting more often because the subcommittee doesn't always meet when scheduled.

She said a task of the subcommittee is to hear appeals on the suspension of a subscription. She said she wasn't sure if there are no appeals or the appeals just don't get heard.

Mr. McQuarie said he reviewed the TAB training booklet for effective senior transportation at Ms. McGinnis' request. He said the booklet covered senior transportation, bus and paratransit transportation and overall went in that order. He noted the booklet touched on the manual tie-downs etc., but is weak. He suggested that be supplemented with effective hands-on training.

He said the section on how the disabled should be treated, etc. is good but covers a broad surface; a lot of the training deals with big buses and doesn't apply.

He said he would give the booklet to Mr. Lujan for anyone who would like to read or get a copy, etc.

° Plan Review - Dave McQuarie

Mr. McQuarie said five plan reviews are in the Committee's packet. Mr. Lujan passed out a plan review that was not included in the packet. (Exhibit 1) He said the plan review had an unusual expense and he recommended the project not be accepted. The curb cuts restrict the access for mobility devices and are against ADA regulations.

Mr. McQuarie said he has not heard anything from City Councilors about his recommendation not to accept.

Mr. McQuarie said members could contact him if they had questions about specific plans. He added that the subcommittee is always looking for people and they could be trained to do plan reviews. The subcommittee meets at one thirty on Monday in Mr. Lujan's office, if there is a plan to review.

Ms. Peters said she would second the request.

Mr. Maynard expressed interest. Ms. Bowman said the chairperson, who doesn't exist at the moment, usually appoints members to subcommittees. She said the Committee might get to that election today.

- Media- Marcia Bowman

Ms. Bowman said she had mentioned that Susan Abod's film would open this month. She planned to contact Ms. Abod to find out what is happening.

- Automatic Door Opener Update

Mr. Lujan said he is still working with the fire department on facilities most practical for the door openers; most likely station number one and the station on Siler used as a training facility. He said the other stations originally included had limited public access. He would keep the Committee updated on the process for the ten or so automatic door openers that would be done.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Tele-Coil Loop Assistive Listening System Presentation - Mr. Hooper

Mr. Hooper said he is hard of hearing and he graduated from the School for the Deaf. He said in the past when he talked on the phone he had to pull his hearing aid out, but with Tele-Coil it works perfectly. He said analog technology in the past had a lot of static and digital is very quiet.

Mr. Hooper explained the Tele-Coil system could be used for the Loop System. He said the Loop System has changed people's lives; in the past he read his professor's lips in class and had to sit in front at City Council meetings to hear.

Mr. McQuarie said he doesn't have a hearing aid, but there are times that amplification is needed. He asked if an individual that has a Loop system but doesn't have a hearing aid, would need a device to hear the system. Mr. Hooper replied a headset that works with the Loop System would be needed.

Mr. McQuarie asked about the national symbol for accessible hearing and the code that Mr. Hooper would recommend for the sign. He said, like restrooms that recommend white on blue for an ADA sponsored device. Mr. Hooper replied that is what is recommended.

Mr. McQuarie said the signs were brought to his attention and are required that all signs be in Braille.

Mr. Hooper said he wasn't sure how to answer that, but the booklet provided by ADA has all of the resources for all of the devices for assistive technology.

Mr. McQuarie asked the cost for City Councilor Chambers to have Tele-Coil.

Mr. Lujan replied it was just under \$2,000. He said he would pose that question to the Committee as a possible funding source, at the end of the presentation.

Mr. Lujan said the City has been plagued with Electromagnetic Sensitivity (EMS) issues for the past few years. He said this is a gray area because there are no guidelines; however when the City does something like the T-Coil system the City has to respond to issues. He said if the Committee moves forward with the system that has to be a strong consideration.

He said he sees the system could provide greater access and ease for persons hard of hearing and they wouldn't have to wear a headset. He said those who don't use hearing aids or with a device without a T-Coil, would need to use headphones.

Mr. McQuarie asked if the City adopts a Loop System, would they furnish a headset for meetings.

Mr. Lujan said the City would provide the headsets and is currently in compliance. He said for people who might be hesitant to ask for a headphone now, with the T-Coil no one would know who is using it.

Mr. Lujan said Mr. McQuarie made good comments about the signage. He said that would show that the devices are available and where to get them. He wasn't sure if they would label the system, but he wouldn't have a problem with labeling. He noted that all of the systems have pros and cons and a lot of variables; not to mention the electrical devices that have interference.

Ms. Almquist said she is a doctor of audiology and licensed in New Mexico to endorse and dispense hearing aids. She said regarding electrical interference; several companies could provide expertise to ensure that the Loop is installed and set up for the conditions and room used.

She said she couldn't speak to EMS and the health issues. She said the Loop system is similar to a land line phone, which also has an electromagnetic field and thought the effects would be similar. She knew of no studies or research published on after-effects, but she would be willing to research that.

Ms. Bowman said she would be interested. She said a recommendation is the use of land line phones instead of cell phones for those who are sensitive. She said if the system is within the range of a cell phone and where in the range falls, would be good to know.

Ms. Almquist offered to research the information for the Committee.

Ms. Fix said her father had a genetic hearing loss and she never realized that she had a hearing loss until an injury. She said she has hyper sensitivity to sound, which has the same effect as many disabilities; a person isolates themselves.

Ms. Fix said Mr. Lujan has been receptive and she loves that EMS has come up. She asked if the FM system would be kept in addition to the T-coil system.

Ms. Fix said there are City events she couldn't hear, and not just in the City Council Chambers. She said she was never made aware her hearing aid had T-Coil capability and thought that audiologists should educate people about their device.

Mr. Hooper said he failed to mention that he is the president of the Santa Fe chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America. He said they help educate people who discover they have a hearing loss, and provide information on hearing loss and resources and issues on hearing loss problems and communications. The Association meets Saturdays and would be meeting April 20 at 10 a.m. at Vitamin Cottage.

Ms. Almquist said hearing aids are expensive. She said even the most expensive and sophisticated wouldn't overcome background noise and reverberation and the most sensitive could only pick up 6-8 feet.

She provided examples of places that have the Loop in Albuquerque and said there is a website with a comprehensive list. She added that the purpose of the Loop is for those with hearing loss to connect with culture, spirituality, government and television and barring issues of personal health and finances, she would encourage City Council to consider their area.

Mr. Lujan passed out additional information on the T-Coil. He read a memo Ms. Virginia Carr sent him in support of the Loop system in the City Council Chambers. Ms. Carr talked about her disappointment in the letter in not being able to hear much of what was said at the retirement of her daughter (Sabrina Pratt) as the City Arts Commission Director. She was encouraged that the Audio Loop was considered and that those with T-Coil and hearing aids could participate in government.

Mr. Lujan thanked Ms. Carr for her letter of support.

Ms. Bowman asked what MCD should do to get the Loop in City Council Chambers.

Mr. Lujan said currently the City has an FM system and is in compliance with ADA. He said he was contacted by Barbara Conroy originally about the Loop system and has also talked with Steve Frazier in Albuquerque. He said he has learned a lot and would like to present information to the administrators.

Mr. Lujan said the first thing he would be asked is if the City is in compliance and they are; but this is a better system. He said the estimate is \$1681 for a Loop amplifier and the materials and labor for installation. He asked if the Committee wanted to allocate that amount from the bond funds for ADA improvements and move this to the next level.

Ms. Hunt said the FM system has radio waves and the Loop is infrared. She thought the City should continue to use the FM system and understood that both systems would be kept.

Mr. Lujan said ATS could answer whether there would be interference with a separate frequency. He couldn't see a reason not to use both systems, if possible.

Mr. McQuarie suggested if the estimate included auxiliary headsets, that the Committee could recommend a certain number.

Mr. Lujan said the City currently has four headsets that should be compatible. He said the neck loops would cost about \$50 per loop and he had someone try the system and it worked well. He said those with a T-Coil would be required to wear a neck loop to tap into the FM system.

Mr. Lujan noted that the remodel of City Council Chambers has been delayed. He said that doesn't mean that the purchase of the Loop System has to be done with the remodel. He said all of the necessary signage was estimated at \$430 for City Council Chambers, and includes the new sign for an assistive hearing device: the type of system, where to obtain and return the device and Braille.

He said the details could be worked out and that might be one less sign the City would have to buy. He said the cost estimate addressed the signage and if MCD wanted to consider funding, he would turn that in.

Ms. Hunt said she would be comfortable with the funding only after MCD has more information. She said it was important to address EMS and hold the vote for funding until that information is received. She added that she would also like research to address whether the FM system could still be utilized.

Ms. Bowman asked Mr. Lujan to get the FM information for the Committee and that Ms. Almquist come back with the EMS information. She thought with that, the Committee would be prepared to take the issue up next month.

b) Community Days Discussion

Ms. Bowman explained Community Days. She said on that day a lot of organizations, particularly government, have booths on the Plaza and hand out information and the MCD in the past had staffed a booth. She asked how many members would be available on Saturday, May 11 for Community Day. Seven members offered to participate.

Ms. Bowman explained the set up is usually from 8-10 a.m. and tear down from 3-4 p.m. Mr. Lujan added the time is generally divided between Committee members and he would set up the tables and a shade canopy and has the information to be distributed.

Mr. Lujan said he was happy to see interest and would proceed with the application for a space. Ms. Bowman added the times could be discussed more in April.

c) Information Request Draft Letters

Ms. Bowman said the Committee packet included a letter written by Mr. McQuarie that he asked her to sign. She thought the letter had a lot of demands of the City Manager and her sense of the Committee is they are to assist and cooperate with other City boards and committees.

She said she has written a letter, and though the letter does not address all of Mr. McQuarie's concerns, does address the issues that MCD could ask for.

She explained the ADA Transition Plan to new members and that the document talks about facilities in the City and what is needed to bring them to ADA compliance. She said the Transition Plan was approved by MCD and the City Council and is a living document.

Ms. Bowman said the Transition Plan states that barrier integration would be integrated into the City's ADA Transition Plan on a regular basis to ensure barriers are current with the barrier mitigation work.

She said Mr. Lujan has the responsibility to maintain a check off list because he hasn't had time to do the list, she asked that to be moved up in priority.

Mr. McQuarie said he still favors his original draft. He said it pertains to pertinent questions that need to be answered or addressed and only the City Manager or his immediate designee could do that. He said the City budget would be presented next month and the City has to ask for the money "and if they say 'no' the reason has to be in writing."

Ms. Bowman said the City Manager doesn't know the answer to the questions. She said the Transition Plan is a guide and the City is doing what they could.

Mr. McQuarie said he doesn't believe that they are; this is to remind the City to request the money.

Ms. Bowman said this has been discussed previously. She asked the Committee for their comments on what was a more appropriate approach.

Mr. Lujan explained that the Committee knows the projects being done, because they come through the subcommittee and they know when a project has been funded and proceeds to the work.

He said the project manager tells him each barrier in the project remodel upon completion that was addressed in the Transition Plan and Mr. Lujan then updates the database. During the creation of the Transition Plan, projects were going on. He gave Franklin Miles Park as an example of a remodel during the two years it took for the Transition Plan to be completed.

He said he has to go back to the facility and the project manager and get the plans to see what should be checked off. He said there are multiple parks in that situation. He said his goal is to complete the list by June, but if someone needs a report he has the memos filed that he has received.

Ms. Bowman said the Committee has three options; to send Mr. McQuarie's letter to Robert Romero; to send her letter to Mr. Lujan or to say the Committee discussed it and nothing else is needed.

Ms. Peters said working with the City as an advisory committee should be done in a positive and constructive way. She said understood Mr. McQuarie's frustration but wants the City Manager to work with MCD and to enlist his cooperation. She thought it wouldn't help to ask questions of the City Manager that he would put on the back burner. She said the letter wasn't necessary and is just documentation that the MCD discussed the issue.

Mr. Lujan said the City Manager runs the City. He is responsible for facilities, programs and services and nine out of ten times would refer to his designee. He said that the City Manager would call him to find out the status.

Mr. Lujan said the budget is a factor and when the Transition Plan was adopted it was with the understanding that upgrades would be done via CIP projects and pavement rehabilitation projects, in

addition to seeking \$300,000 bi-annually for ADA improvements that could be used unrelated to the Transition Plan.

Mr. Lujan explained when the Transition Plan was updated it was in the middle of the economic downfall and all municipalities were struggling. He said the City has to abide by the ADA and he would be contacted when there is an absolute barrier. He gave an example of an absolute barrier as a six inch curb for a person using a wheel mobility device.

Mr. Lujan said he is comfortable saying that more than 50% of the absolute barriers in the Transition Plan are more like toilet paper dispensers or towel racks that need to be adjusted. Those items could be used although not in compliance.

He said Mr. McQuarie has a point that ADA is a law and the Transition Plan is a living document and subject to updating as it goes along. He explained that some buildings are not in the Transition Plan because there is little or no public access or the facility was new.

Ms. Peters asked if they could find out how other cities have handled ADA implementation.

Mr. Lujan said other than calling other municipalities he isn't sure how that could be done. He said numerous public entities do not have a current ADA Transition Plan, but the City of Santa Fe does. He said the Transition Plan has an estimate of \$8 million of deficiencies between the City facilities, parks and right of ways adjoining City facilities. He encouraged the Committee to seek a sponsor from City Council because they need support at that level.

Mr. Lujan said Katherine Raveling; the previous Finance Director addressed the MCD to explain the City budget at the time of the economic downfall. He said the current Finance Director could be invited, with the federal budget cut backs there could be an impact. He said Santa Fe isn't out of the woods yet, as far as recovering.

Mr. Ortiz Dinkel said the City Manager would just turn to Mr. Lujan for an answer, so what would be the point of sending the letter. He agreed the Committee should get a City Councilor in support of this and critical they know where the City stands financially.

Ms. Hunt asked if the Governors Committee on Disability (GCD) has resources to assist municipalities or might be a resource with some of the Transition Plan.

Mr. McQuarie said the short answer is no and they don't want to get involved. He said GCD is a referral for general disability questions and would just quote ADA on a specific requirement of the Transition Plan.

He said he would insist that the letter be addressed to the City Manager, even though he would give it to Mr. Lujan. He said it would put it in the City Manager's mind and by the same token, copies should be submitted to the Governing Body.

Mr. McQuarie said he left out the question about how much money the City was requesting for this budget cycle. He said the only person who could request the money is the City Manager and if City Council isn't aware of the need, they wouldn't address the issue.

Ms. Peters said she wanted to accept Mr. Lujan's offer for a barrier mitigation report by June. She said that could be used as a starting point for the MCD to address how to proceed and whom to ask support from.

Ms. Peters moved that Mr. Lujan update the check off data base for barrier mitigation and create a barrier mitigation report to be reviewed by MCD by June. Ms. Hunt seconded the motion.

Mr. McQuarie disagreed and said the letter should be addressed to the City Manager and the Committee should make him aware that something has to be done and not to forget about it.

Ms. Peters said after the initial work, MCD would have something to attach to the letter that would give the status.

Mr. McQuarie added that the City Council approved the Transition Plan update and the annual report of barrier mitigation was due in February.

The motion passed by majority voice vote. Mr. McQuarie abstained.

ITEMS FROM MEMBERS AND STAFF

Ms. McGinnis said the Assistance Animal Act bill (SB320) is on Governor Martinez' desk. The bill would bring the New Mexico law regarding service animals in line with the federal law and was passed by the Legislature. She suggested members call the Governor's office and ask her to sign the bill.

She announced that New Vistas would do another Grief to Laughter class on April 11 and she had flyers.

Mr. McQuarie asked members to think about updating the accessible parking signs. He said the City adopted the symbol to be white on blue. He said in 2004 the City Manager signed a directive for all public property and public rights of way and if City Council would include that in the bill, the directive could include private entities. He said it is confusing for people and for enforcement.

Mr. Lujan said time ran out for the election of officers and the appointment of a chair, vice chair and subcommittee appointees would be on the next agenda.

Ms. McGinnis asked for time on the agenda to give a synopsis on senior transportation.

Mr. McQuarie asked Mr. Lujan to find out when the plans would be received on the revision of the Guadalupe Street and ?? Bridges. He said the Plan Review subcommittee should have received the plans.

NEXT MEETING: April 18, 2013

ADJOURNMENT

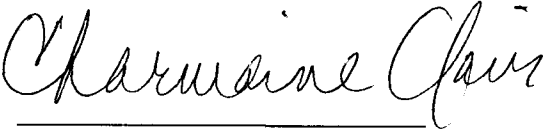
Having completed the agenda and no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

Approved by:



Marcia Bowman, Vice Chair

Submitted by:



Charmaine Clair, Stenographer