

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes



Date & Time: Thursday, Mar 23rd, 2017 at 3:00-4:00 P.M.

Location: Sun Metro Transit Operations Center at 10151 Montana

Agenda Minutes

I. Welcome/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm with following members present. Committee introduced themselves, as well as city employees that were present.

Member	Appointment	Present
Manuel Corral	District 1	x
Soledad Basoco	District 2	x
Michelle Adjemian	District 3	Absent
Lori Vugteveen	District 4	Absent
Mary Alice Gary	District 5	x
Mary Castillo	District 6	x
Karl Kevin Glancey	District 7	x
Paul de la Peña	District 8	Absent
George Zavala	Mayor	x
Julio Perez	Secretary	x

II. Call to the Public – Public Comment

- Ms. Lourdes Hernandez announced that on May 6th, there will be a mayoral candidate roundtable. Everyone is welcome to come and ask questions.

III. Business Items

Approval of Jan 26th, 2017 Minutes: Motion to approve made by Mary Alice Gary and Mary Castillo. Motion passed.

Discussion

- Discuss the facilitation and placement of ‘job coaches’ at city sites to assist clients served by Vocational Rehabilitation
 - Mary Castillo is asking the City to allow the placement of job coaches at various city sites to assist employees with disabilities that may need extra help

in carrying out their job responsibilities, learn special skills they may need or just provide support so they can be successful.

- The program is sponsored and paid for by the Texas Workforce Commission under their rehabilitation services.
- This ‘job coaching’ program may differ from that of the City’s training program in that the ‘job coaches’ work one-on-one with the employee on specific tasks, goals and performance measures until the employee feels they can be on their own. They shadow the employee – but don’t perform the work for them.
- State agencies have tried to introduce this program into the City – but the City has so far not allowed it – quoting that employees already have all the resources needed.
- For more information, Mary Castillo can be contacted at 834-7004
- Julio Perez will follow up with the City and will report back – group asks for someone from HR, if possible, to be present at the next AAC meeting.

A. Accessibility issues at 6021 N Mesa, Food King

- Food King repainted/restriped the parking lot – but the parking areas are not accessible.
- Julio Perez suggested that items like these are called into 311. 311 will address non-compliance of parking spaces if there’s a permit from that location with the City. This one will be forwarded to them.
- Ms. Mary Alice Gary: Shouldn’t the contractors know that all those parking spaces need to be compliant? The responsibility falls on the owner to make sure the contractor is doing things properly and to be told exactly what to do.

C. Standards for parking in relation to available accessible parking

- Michelle Adjemian had this item but she’s not present. Mr. Zavala said that it refers to the Bassett Center – they do not have enough ADA parking spaces.
 - In general, there should be one ADA space for every 25 parking spaces up to 100. Then the rate is lower – over 500 it’s basically 2% of the total that should be ADA.

B. Discuss accessibility issues at recreational centers

- a. Mary Alice Gary: The recreational center (multi-purpose center) exercise equipment is not accessible to those in mobility devices and the blind.
- b. For those in mobility devices, it’s very difficult to maneuver around the equipment and many cannot be used by those in wheelchairs. Also the equipment is not tagged with tactile characters for the blind.
- c. Mary Alice: The exercise equipment was in a bigger room that was more accessible and now has been moved.
- d. Someone from the recreational centers will be invited to the next meeting.

- E. Update from Sun Metro on project to improve ADA bus stop accessibility
 - a. The City has awarded a contract to JAR.
 - b. They should be starting next month and they will start addressing those areas that have been reported by the community that directly impact persons with disabilities.
 - c. The community should continue to send recommendations of areas the need to have priority.
 - d. Mr. Everett Esparza responded to a question regarding bus stop poles for those who are blind. Mr. Esparza has a project going to eventually replace all bus stop poles with solid square poles – so that when someone who is blind identifies a solid square pole, they know they are at a bus stop. Over 1000 bus stops have been installed and as they get down or damaged, they get replaced.

- F. Discuss accessibility along Doniphan
 - a. Julio Perez: TxDOT is doing a comprehensive study along the Doniphan corridor to see what needs to be done to address multiple issues: accessibility, drainage, signage and other issues. Once the study is completed, it will be presented for discussion.
 - b. Committee members asked for the name of the TxDOT person that provided this update at City Council. Julio Perez will look into it.

- G. Discussion and action on selecting a new chairperson for the AAC Committee.
 - o Julio Perez is asking the Committee to select a new chairperson and vice-chair. Typically, committees do this on a year basis – and this hasn't been done since the new committee started over a year and a half ago.
 - o Mr. Zavala was nominated to be the chairperson and Manuel Corral to be the vice-chair. A unanimous vote approved the motion.

IV. Next meeting Location

- April 27th, 2017 from 3:00-4:00pm at Sun Metro Operations Center.

V. Adjournment – 3:58 PM