

ADA COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 10, 2021

Session 21-04, a Regular Meeting of the ADA Compliance Committee was called to order by Acting Chair Joyanna Geisler at 4:17 p.m. on June 10, 2021, via Zoom Webinar from the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska. There is one vacancy on the Committee.

PRESENT: DONNA ADERHOLD, ROGER CLYNE, JOYANNA GEISLER

DAVID LEWIS, COMMISSIONER, PARKS, ART, RECREATION & CULTURE (PARC) ADVISORY COMMISSION

ABSENT: PAM VANHOOZER (EXCUSED)

STAFF: MELISSA JACOBSEN, CITY CLERK

AGENDA APPROVAL

Acting Chair Geisler requested a motion to approve the agenda.

ADERHOLD MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

RECONSIDERATION

There were no items scheduled.

SYNOPSIS APPROVAL

A. Regular Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2021

Acting Chair Geisler requested a motion to approve the minutes.

CLYNE/ADERHOLD MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 13, 2021.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

Homer Wayfinding & Streetscape - Discovery Days presented by Deputy City Planner Julie Engebretsen

Deputy City Planner Engebretsen introduced herself providing a brief orientation on the development of the City Wayfinding and Streetscape Plan and the importance that accessibility is included in the development of that plan. She additionally stated that she learned the importance of the placement of benches within the community. Ms. Engebretsen provided information on the upcoming meeting later this evening, June 10, 2021 regarding the findings from the various pop up meetings conducted by the Consultant, Corvus Design and invited the Committee members to attend that meeting.

Deputy City Planner Engebretsen responded to the question on initial take-aways from the walk through stating that the opportunity to display a map of the city at Baycrest which is a perfect opportunity to let visitors know that there is more than the Spit to see while in Homer and likewise there is nothing at the Spit to advise visitors that there are things to see in town.

Discussion ensued on relating additional efforts being made to identify accessible hotels and businesses in Homer, and the difficulties in traveling with mobility issues and working towards making visitors and residents experience more comfortable.

Committee member Clyne inquired about the availability of the Trails Map that was provided.

Deputy City Planner Engebretsen stated that this map was a group effort issued in 2014 and there was not the desire to provide the funding to produce more of those maps.

David Lewis, Chair of the Parks, Art Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission provided information on the efforts of the Parks Department to upgrade the trails maps with QR codes to make it easier for visitors and residents.

Deputy City Planner Engebretsen explained that the Wayfinding and Streetscape Plan is to develop templates for signage consistency for public trailheads through shuttle bus stops, benches, garbage cans, etc., so that it is obvious when traveling through the community what is a public access point. While having the QR codes and a website behind it is great but having a marker designating a public trail is where we need to get to as a community.

Further discussion was facilitated on the following points:

- Cruise ship passengers use of the Poop Deck Trail
- Knowing which trails are accessible and how to get from point A to point B
- Making Routes for Recreational Vehicles and other levels of accessibility to include businesses
- Sticker or sign to mark level of accessibility

PENDING BUSINESS

- A. ADA Transition Plan - Parks, Trails & Campgrounds Draft
- - ADA Transition Plan - Parks, Trails & Campgrounds
 - - 2010 ADA Regulations Chapter 10 Recreation Facilities
 - - Play Areas Checklist

- - Play Areas Accessibility Guidelines
- - Fishing Piers and Platforms(limited applicability)
- - Sports Activities, Team or Player Seating (Benches)

Acting Chair Geisler introduced the item by reading of the title and commented that she appreciated the introduction of the ADA background, community involvement and noted the highlighted sections requiring information.

Member Aderhold agreed and those sections would be completed when they did their fieldwork and noted that Deputy City Clerk Krause had found a template online and felt that it was appropriate to use for their Transition Plan and requested feedback from the Committee on the format of the document since it was quite different than that of the previous transition plan document. Once they have the new data the Committee can make necessary changes.

Commissioner Lewis inquired what the Committee would like from the PARC Commission to do, perform assessments on trails, Hornaday Park and the campgrounds.

Acting Chair Geisler stated that it would be preferred to have a committee of some folks with mobility issues and members of the Committee plus the Parks Commission and Staff, since it would be beneficial to have a small committee to help with taking pictures, using the measuring tape, level, etc.

Acting Chair Geisler explained the need to establish dates for the team to perform the assessments and once this exercise is completed the ADA Committee will not be visiting the parks on a regular basis but the Parks Commission would be and it would be beneficial to have the Commission's participation to have some understanding in continuing ADA Compliance in the future with the city Parks and Trails.

Additional points made were as follows:

- Joint visits to parks and trails by the members of the PARC Advisory Commission and the ADA Committee to conduct ADA Compliance reviews
- Continued review and observation in the future in regards to ADA Compliance by the PARC Commission
- Findings during participation during the last transition plan by PARC Commissioner Lewis
- How to actually conduct the measurements on parks and trails
- Ability of members of the Committee, end users to participate in the surveys
- Parks Superintendent Steffy should be invited to participate on any surveys

City Clerk Jacobsen inquired if the Committee was at the point that they were ready to schedule those surveys.

A brief discussion was facilitated by Acting Chair Geisler with input from Member Aderhold on holding the discussion on scheduling under item B of Pending Business.

B. Prioritizing City of Homer Parks, Trails & Campgrounds in Preparation for ADA Compliance Self-Evaluation

Acting Chair Geisler introduced the item by reading of the title. She then reviewed the content of the Memorandum from Deputy City Clerk Krause and the requested action from the Committee.

Acting Chair Geisler confirmed that they were ready to prioritize the listed parks, campgrounds and trails.

Member Aderhold requested input from PARC Commissioner Lewis on the listing in regards to if any trails or parks were missing from the list.

Commissioner Lewis noted that the following:

- Calvin & Coyle Trail but he believed that those were under the Land Trust
- Reber Trail – it was determined at a prior meeting that this trail was not accessible
And there is no way to make it accessible

Acting Chair Geisler read the listing of parks, trails and campgrounds to be prioritized for the record:

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Member Aderhold noted that there are parks on the list that have trails associated with them, such as Karen Hornaday Park and questioned if they should look at them together or should they be listed under the trails category.

Acting Chair Geisler recommended including the trail and campgrounds with the park to get them done together.

There was consensus to include the related campgrounds and trails with the Park.

Member Aderhold agreed that degree of use was a good method to prioritize the lists.

Commissioner Lewis stated that Bishop's Beach, Karen Hornaday, Mariner Park, Fishing Lagoon Campground, Poopdeck Trail, Story book Trail/Walk.

Acting Chair Geisler reviewed the list as stated by Commissioner Lewis.

Member Aderhold requested clarification on prioritize the parks, campgrounds and trails within each classification or do they want to prioritize everything. She advocated for prioritizing the parks and everything related to those parks, but noted that it would take more than one visit to cover everything at Karen Hornaday Park. She responded to Acting Chair Geisler that they should just decide on how to work through the process.

Acting Chair Geisler inquired if they should just pick a couple of parks, a couple of campgrounds and a trail to provide them with a start and get some additional experience.

Members Aderhold and Clyne were in agreement with that plan.

Member Aderhold recommended that they start with Bishop's Beach then Karen Hornaday and review everything associated with those two parks, she believe that would provide them with a good start.

Member Clyne requested clarification on the location of the Storybook Trail.

Commissioner Lewis provided the location, from the Library parking lot to the Poopdeck Trail through that lot next to the Library.

Commissioner Lewis asked if they were ready to select a date.

Member Aderhold recommended selecting a range of dates and then confirmed the advertising requirements with City Clerk Jacobsen. She suggested the week of June 28, 2021.

A discussion ensued on narrowing down a date during the week of June 28, 2021 and if that did not work for everyone they can look at the week of July 11, 2021. It was narrowed down to Thursday, July 1, 2021 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Bishop's Beach Park.

Acting Chair Geisler will contact a few members of the public that may have an interest in attending, Commissioner Lewis will bring the request to the PARC Advisory Commissioners at their June 17th meeting and City Clerk Jacobsen will send the information to Public Works Staff.

Member Aderhold reminded those in attendance that they will be looking at the trails associated with Bishop's Beach and that when they were working on the previous transition plan, they were unsure under whose jurisdiction that those trails were under, the City or Fish & Game. She will reach out to Fish & Game to invite them to participate at the suggestion of Commissioner Lewis.

NEW BUSINESS

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

- A. Memorandum from ADA Compliance Committee re: Ordinance to Create and Fund ADA Compliance Small Works Program

Member Aderhold responded to Acting Chair Geisler's question noting this item was on the last agenda and Public Works Director Keiser had requested recommendation of support from the Committee on her Small Works Program that she would be presenting to City Council.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

City Manager Dumouchel commented that they did not have that specific program included in the budget however there were several ADA Compliance projects included in the Capital Improvement Plan, airport improvements and ramp at city hall. The City recently applied for 2022 capital assistance program funds from the State of Alaska and if they do receive it they will be applying it towards those projects.

Commissioner Lewis had no comments but will present it to the Parks Art Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

City Clerk Jacobsen apologized for the login mix up and promised it will go better once Renee was back. She responded to the question of in-person meetings and the best person to contact regarding what has been done previously by the ADA for Member Clyne.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Acting Chair Geisler commented on the availability of attending the ADA Symposium which is also being held virtually as well as in person in Phoenix, Arizona in August.

Member Clyne asked when in-person meetings would resume for the Committee. He also requested if he could contact someone and get some information and up to speed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers via Zoom Webinar located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.



RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK/ADA COORDINATOR

Approved: _____ July 8, 2021 _____