

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Session 23-07 a Special Meeting of the ADA Advisory Board was called to order by Vice Chair Joyanna Geisler at 5:03 p.m. on September 7, 2023 from the Cowles Council Chambers, City Hall, located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom webinar.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS GEISLER, LEPLEY, PARSONS, SAFRA, THORSRUD

ABSENT: BOARD MEMBER ADERHOLD (EXCUSED)

STAFF: DEPUTY CITY CLERK II/ADA COORDINATOR KRAUSE

## **AGENDA APPROVAL**

SAFRA/LEPLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA (3 Minute Time limit)**

## **RECONSIDERATION**

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A. Unapproved Regular Meeting Minutes for August 10, 2023

LEPLEY/SAFRA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

## **VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS**

## **STAFF & COUNCIL REPORT(S)/COMMITTEE REPORT(S)**

A. ADA Coordinator Report

ADA Coordinator Krause provided a verbal update on the Heath Street Renovation Project having recently received the drawings from Public Works. She noted that they did contain design and placement of pedestrian crossings with flashing lights.

Vice Chair Geisler reported that the Independent Living Center received news that the two traffic lights will receive audible signals.

Board member Parsons reported that in discussion with Alaska Department of Transportation does not automatically install audible signals on traffic signals since some persons find that it causes more noise and makes hearing traffic even more difficult but if they receive a request they will install those audible signals.

## **PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

## **PENDING BUSINESS**

- A. ADA Transition Plan for Parks, Play Areas & Campgrounds – Review and Adopt  
Memorandum ADA 23-024

Vice Chair Geisler introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause.

ADA Coordinator Krause review Memorandum ADA-23-024 for the Board noting the following amendments to the document:

Page 2 – No further amendments.

Page 3 – The table of contents will be updated once all the final amendments have been executed.

Page 4 – 1.0 Introduction

- Lines 87 – 93: Updated the information to represent the 2021 figures from the US Census Bureau for the US overall, the State of Alaska and then the City of Homer to be more impactful
- Lines 94-101: Moved to a separate paragraph from the Information regarding the number of people with disabilities as it addressed another topic.

Page 5 – Paragraphs were separated throughout as recommended by the Chair.

2.2 Transition Plan Requirements

- Line 157: Amended to correct the description of the action

Page 6 – Line 162, 166 & 172: Added the word “Facilities” to identify the first transition plan correctly

- Line 172: Deleted verbiage as it is not necessary as a descriptive
- Added spaces between paragraph for separation of topics

Page 7 - 3.2 Findings

- Line 228: Deleted verbiage as it was vague and misleading. The City does not really have a managed Parks system. Corrected word to past tense to represent correct grammatical use.

Page 8 - 4.0 Transition Plan

- Line 244: Removed extra space

Page 9 – 5.1.1 Cost/Impact Ranking

- Lines 302 – 308: Indented text
- 5.2 Funding
  - Line 311: Justified text

Page 10 – 5.3 Timeline Ranking

- Indented text

Page 11 – 6.0 Recommendations

- Line 362-364: Bulleted to define what actions can be designated as routine

Ms. Krause commented on the proposed timelines submitted by maintenance and was very surprised that they were very short and could be accomplished within normal work schedules and within the next year. She did note that there were several that would require additional time due to funding.

ADA Coordinator Krause provided clarification on the deleting “park system” explaining that in comparison to other cities the City of Homer does not have a parks department so it is misleading to state in the document that it is a managed park system in response to a question from the Board.

Vice Chair Geisler requested a motion and second.

LEPLEY/THORSRUD MOVED TO ADOPT THE CITY OF HOMER ADA TRANSITION PLAN FOR PARKS, PLAY AREAS AND CAMPGROUNDS AND FORWARD TO CITY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.

ADA Coordinator Krause facilitated discussion on the following points:

- Line 86, research showed that the CDC reports 61 million, ADA National Network reports 54 million and Global Disability Rights for the United States reports 57 million while American Community Survey does estimate 42.5 million – depending on what organization the Board would like to reference those figures can be used.
  - 42.5 million was generally thought of as low and typically the numbers referenced between 50 and 60 million.
  - The paragraph would need to be re-written to reflect the number from the organization that the Board preferred.

SAFRA/GEISLER MOVED TO AMEND LINES 86 AND 87 TO REFLECT THE NUMBERS FROM THE ADA NATIONAL NETWORK.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

- Page 25 in the packet, page 14 of the Transition Plan clarification was provided on the description of “Install chair level transfer”
- Page 26 in the packet, page 15 of the Transition Plan, typographical error in Priority Level. This should be a level 1 not 4 since it referred to access.
- Page 31 in the packet, page 20 of the Transition Plan, clarification on the Priority level was a three because it was considered an amenity which according to the Department of Justice falls under 4 which included things such as drinking fountains, trash receptacles, etc.
  - o It was noted that at that park it was the only shelter so a preference would be to classify it to a higher priority.
  - o Further point was made that since the Port & Harbor has taken over the Spit Campgrounds they have it ranked as a two due to the additional budget needed so with a timeline of 1-2 years so really that moves it into a priority one class item.
- Page 32 in the packet, page 21 clarification was provided on the priority level since there is no ADA compliant camping spots and multiple campsites are needed to bring that campground into compliance.
  - o Port Maintenance Supervisor is very cognizant of the requirements of bringing things into compliance and the concerns of the Board are definitely heard.

Further concerns were expressed by the Board that such things like handrails and access should automatically be done and implemented when constructing amenities such as the gazebo at Mariner Park. It was commented that a pavilion should be constructed since it is such as heavily visited park.

ADA Coordinator Krause provided further clarification that Bayview Park is the park that was omitted since the equipment was removed due to safety and is currently being re-designed will be a fully accessible park. Ben Walters Park was not included but it was noted that benches and the boardwalk to the lake was not ADA compliant; and Beluga Slough Boardwalk after the recent visit there would be gravel installed and transitions would be addressed within the week.

The Board agreed by consensus to have the Clerk effect the minor corrections as noted.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

- A. Karen Hornaday Park & Bayview Park Public Forum Flyer

ADA Coordinator Krause explained that all meetings were open to the public, written comments could be submitted and this was being advertised that Council and Advisory Bodies members would be attending.

### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

Mr. Agee expressed his appreciation for the good work that the Board does.

### **COMMENTS OF THE STAFF**

ADA Coordinator Krause expressed her appreciation for a good meeting, noting she liked having short meetings too.

### **COMMENTS OF THE MAYOR/COUNCIL MEMBER (If Present)**

### **COMMENTS OF THE BOARD**

Board member Lepley expressed his appreciation for the clarification provided by Ms. Krause.

Boardmember Thorsrud expressed her appreciation of having such wonderful group to work with and the benefit of knowledgeable city staff person. She will be the person to push for more benches with backs.

Vice Chair Geisler reported that she received an invitation to be a member of the stakeholder group on accessible voting and while she appreciated the invitation she does not have the time and submitted a recommendation for Brad and Pat Case.

Boardmember Safra reported that she will be absent from the October meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chair Geisler adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m. The next regular meeting is Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. All meetings are scheduled to be held in City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, 99603 and via Zoom webinar.

Renee Krause

RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK II

Approved: Oct 12, 2023