

Session 17-01 a Regular Meeting of the ADA Compliance Committee was called to order by Acting Chair Dally at 4:00 p.m. on January 12, 2017 at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

PRESENT: Donna Aderhold, Patrick Brown, Tess Dally

ABSENT: Linda Munns

STAFF: Melissa Jacobsen, Deputy City Clerk/ADA Coordinator

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

The Committee approved the agenda by consensus.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no public comments

### **RECONSIDERATION**

### **APPROVAL OF SYNOPSIS**

A. November 10, 2016 Meeting Synopsis

The Committee approved the synopsis by consensus.

### **VISITORS**

### **PENDING BUSINESS**

A. ADA Self-Evaluation, Transition Plan, Trust Grant Application Update

David Barton with Northwest ADA Center participated telephonically, reviewed, and answered questions regarding the self-evaluation and transition plan estimate he provided. Comments included:

- The more people who can help with the survey portion will allow more of his time focused on reporting.
- Prioritization was main city infrastructure, then the harbor facility, and then parks.
- Survey in the summer and work on reporting in the winter.
- The proposal is based on a two-year timeline, but the process can be organic and done on a flexible schedule that works for the city.

Mr. Barton reviewed the process for reporting explaining that in his experience as much time goes into the reporting as into the surveying. Reporting requires condensing the information from the survey on each facility into a report for that facility. Then the individual reports need to be combined into a matrix and an overall report that addresses all the barriers, prioritizing them based on usage by citizens and tourists with disabilities, and establishing an appropriate timeline and cost for addressing the barriers. The number and complexity of the barriers increases the time needed in reporting. He added that if enforcement agencies become involved they may look at whether the city tried to do the survey as accurately as possible and put the barriers in an overall matrix that is prioritized, addresses services and facilities, and putting money where it accommodates the most people. Mr. Barton emphasized that the plan needs to be such that when it gets passed on to a new staff person it is clear and concise enough to continue on with the work, and added that involving local citizens with disabilities in the process can be helpful in identifying barriers.

Mr. Barton also touched on the ADA Symposium in May. There will be sessions on self-evaluation and transition planning and someone

from the the city and/or the Independent Living Center (ILC) becoming educated and comfortable with the work would also help him in his work and possibly help reduce cost to the city. The goal is for the city to be able to recognize barriers and know how to address them.

After the telephonic discussion disconnected, the committee discussed pros and cons of the RFP process and working directly with Mr. Barton and the Northwest ADA Center. They agreed that Mr. Barton has the skill set and knowledge to do the work, and the work would be at cost, as they are not looking for a profit. They also recognized the benefit of being able to be more flexible in the structure of the work, where an RFP would like them more into a structure.

The committee agreed by consensus to recommend working with Northwest ADA on the self-evaluation and transition plan.

#### B. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

The Committee agreed to carry this over to the next meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### A. Review City of Homer Special Event Application

The Committee reviewed the application and did not recommend any changes.

#### B. Action Plan for Accessible Website

Deputy City Clerk Jacobsen commented this is more of an informational item. The City is beginning to look in to website accessibility and will be talking with the web designers about accessibility. Mr. Brown commented he navigates the website easily since the last upgrade.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

A. Community Recreation Schedule for HERC gym

## **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

## **COMMENTS OF STAFF**

There were no staff comments.

## **COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no committee comments.

## **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

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MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_