

# Americans with Disability Advisory Council Minutes

**Date:** Tuesday, December 7, 2021

**Time:** 5:30 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom

**Council Members Present:**

Travis Davis, Chair  
Diane Mourning Brown, Vice-Chair  
Daniel Strones  
Matthew Loehman

**City Staff Present:**

Leigh Brunner, Assistant City Attorney  
Jordan Vargas, Title II ADA Coordinator  
Annette Saiz, Minute Taker

**Council Members Not Present:**

Kerry Houlihan  
Sean King  
Kaatje van der Gaarden

**Members of the Public:**

Stephanie Bartlett, Office of Civic Engagement  
Nat Dean  
Karen Cushnyr

**I. Call to Order**

- a. The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Chair Davis.

**II. Approval of November 9, 2021 Minutes**

- a. Chair Davis and Member Loehman chatted and stated minutes to wait until next meeting.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

- a. Member Loehman moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Member Strones. The motion was unanimously approved by other council members.

**IV. Introductions**

- a. Council members, city staff and members of the public introduced themselves.

**V. Public Comment**

- a. There was no public comment

**VI. Items for council discussion**

- a. Approval of Resolution for 2022
- i. Member Loehman moved to approve the Resolution for 2022. The motion was seconded by Member Strones. The motion was unanimously approved by other Council members.
  - b. Discussion on ADA Issues in the community
    - i. Chair Davis asked Council members what ADA issues to discuss in new year. Discussion regarding the following:
      - Ms. Mourning Brown has a new position at the New Mexico Department of Veterans Services. Talked about services provided by the NM Department of Veterans Affairs and having Secretary of NM Department of Veterans Services speak at Council meeting.
      - Goal to get more members.
      - Sun Van will attend Council in January.
      - Having APS person in charge of physical/speech therapy attend Council meeting.

- ii. Update on BioPark. Ms. Vargas visited elephant exhibit at Biopark and did not notice any ADA issues. She reported a new high-rise platform at the elephant exhibit on the other side; the ramp has accurate acceptable landing. Gave update on service animals. Process still being worked on.
  - a) Concerns of attending the zoo with service dog (1) where able to go, (2) how will public be notified; (3) how it is going to be handled and (4) what accommodations are going to be made?
  - b) Ms. Cushnyr questioned how Biopark will handle ADA issues when animals are on display interchangeably and people show up with service dogs on any given day.
- iii. Chair Davis asked Council whether they had any other items to discuss for the new year such as openings on and more visibility of Council.
  - Look into various agencies such as Commission for the Blind and Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and let them know that the City of Albuquerque is looking for applicants for ADA Council.
  - Ms. Dean was wondering if the direction of the council overall was toward addressing issues of concern to the municipality of the City, or if the ADA Council's mission was addressing larger issues at Federal and Statewide level.
  - Chair Davis relayed the focus has and will always be the municipality of the City.
- iv. Ms. Cushnyr asked about reallocation of \$300,000 in Animal Welfare funding. Ms. Vargas stated it had been earmarked and was given by an organization Dennis Friends. Specifically earmarked to provide services on effective vaccinations, spades and neuters that were for low income families.

#### **VII. New Business and Announcements from Members**

- a. Chair Davis stated there is no new business.
- b. Vice-Chair Brown announced the legislative session starts January 18. The public can attend. There is a mask requirement and proof of vaccination is required.
- c. Ms. Bartlett commented on issue she was having with pharmacies being closed and not being able to get her medications. Discussion of what can be done to help people with chronic medical issues in the community with pharmacies and getting medications.

#### **VIII. Adjournment**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m. by Chair Davis.

***Next regularly scheduled ADA Advisory Council Meeting will be Tuesday, January 4, 2022.***

*Travis Davis*  
Travis Davis, Chair

1/24/22  
Date