

ADA COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 14, 2022

Session 22-02 a Regular Meeting of the ADA Compliance Committee was called to order by Vice Chair Joyanna Geisler at 4:08 p.m. on April 14, 2022, via Zoom Webinar from the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.

**PRESENT:** COMMITTEE MEMBERS DEADRICK, GEISLER, SAFRA AND THORSRUD

**ABSENT:** COMMITTEE MEMBER ADERHOLD (EXCUSED)

**STAFF:** ADA COORDINATOR KRAUSE  
PROJECT TECHNICIAN MEYER

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

Vice Chair Geisler requested a motion to approve the agenda.

THORSRUD/DEADRICK MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA**

**RECONSIDERATION**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2022

Vice Chair Geisler requested a motion to approve the minutes.

DEADRICK/THORSRUD MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10, 2022.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

**REPORTS**

- A. ADA Coordinator Report for April 2022

ADA Coordinator Krause provided a synopsis of her report noting that due to heavy work schedules she was unable to complete the corrections and changes that were provided by Chair Aderhold and she was informed by the Public Works Director that they will be issuing a work order to one of the contracted term engineers to provide the cost estimates for the various improvements. She is expecting to have these items completed for the June meeting.

## **VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS**

### **PENDING BUSINESS**

#### A. Proposed Community Survey on Accessibility

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

ADA Coordinator Krause noted that she updated and amended the survey in response to the Committee recommendations from the last meeting and was seeking additional comment on the final draft. She then facilitated discussion on the following from Committee members:

- Question Number 1 should add “and issue(s)”
- Question Number 3 does not include the City owned trails as the Committee agreed at the February meeting to perform a separate trails transition plan so they will have their own survey issued when appropriate.
- Include statement that this does not include trails in the introduction or title
- Access in general to a facility or amenity would cover all modes of transport such as walkability, wheeled access, foot, vehicular, etc.
- Re-order the questions in the following manner to address flow:
  - o #3 = #1
  - o #1 = #2
  - o #2 = #3
  - o #4 = #4
  - o #6 = #5
  - o #7 = #6
  - o #8 = #7
  - o #5 = #8
- Question Number 8 should be amended to read, “Are” not “is”

SAFRA/THORSRUD MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMMUNITY SURVEY AS AMENDED.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Vice Chair Geisler asked for a motion to forward the amended survey to the City Manager.

THORSRUD/SAFRA MOVED TO FORWARD THE AMENDED SURVEY TO THE CITY MANAGER FOR FINAL APPROVAL.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Scheduling Jack Gist park and the Fishing Lagoon for Site Accessibility Review Update

Vice Chair Geisler introduced the item and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause to speak to the item.

ADA Coordinator Krause provided a summary of the memorandum in the packet. She requested the committee to determine a time frame that would work best for those interested in re-visiting the areas with staff.

Committee members and Project Technician Meyer proceeded to state their availability and it was determined that the week of May 16<sup>th</sup> would work for the majority.

ADA Coordinator Krause will submit a Google poll or something similar to all members to narrow down the date and times.

**INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

- A. Ordinance 22-16 Appropriating Funds for Engineering ADA Access to Fishing Lagoon  
Memorandum from Public Works Director as backup

ADA Coordinator Krause noted that the ordinance was approved and then provided clarification on what the acronym CARMA represented. The funding will be used to pay for a design of a fishing dock that will be more along the vision of a pier type dock similar to what Mr. Adams recommended at their last meeting.

- B. AARP Walk Audit Tool Kit – A Self Service Guide for Assessing a Community’s Walkability

Vice Chair Geisler commented on the Tool Kit, that it look like really good information and opined that AARP does put out some nice accessibility and livability products.

Committee member Deadrick commented that she reviewed the material and stated she would be interested in completing one of these surveys and do the math, but it'd be a big project. She recalled that one of the interesting points made was a community is not walkable if there are no sidewalks or sidewalks that end and Homer has plenty of those.

ADA Coordinator Krause reported on the Council interest and discussion at their recent visioning event regarding pedestrian safety, trails, sidewalks, etc.

Vice Chair Geisler stated that the advantage is not having to reinvent the wheel, there is research and information that the Committee can use.

Committee member Thorsrud added that it would be interesting to conduct a meeting with local business owners to have a discussion on general accessibility. She then acknowledged that Pioneer Avenue is not walkable in the winter and spring when there is gravel all over the sidewalks and then contending with the spray of water from passing vehicles due to the lack of separation from the roadway and that is an issue whether a person has any specific accessibility issues.

Further comments were made on what responsibilities belong to the city and state for sidewalk and road maintenance; entrances at businesses and how Kenai and Seward businesses are more accessible than Homer; working with the Chamber and other Advisory Commissions to encourage addressing accessibility issues at businesses; having the statistics on the contributions in sales taxes that persons with disabilities add to a community; creating a strategic plan or goals to address and working on these after the Committee has completed the transition plans.

C. AARP Rural Livability Workshop Report – How & Why Small Towns and Remote Communities are Working to Become More Livable for Older Adults and People of All Ages

A brief discussion was facilitated by ADA Coordinator Krause in the accessibility of sidewalks at the end of Fairview Avenue and the extension of the sidewalk. She stated that she would inquire about that issue with the Public Works Director.

**COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

**COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF**

Project Technician Meyer commented on the additional task order being assigned to Corvus Design to provide cost estimates on items identified in the transition plan.

ADA Coordinator Krause expressed her appreciation for Vice Chair Geisler conducting the meeting and doing a great job.

**COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE**

Committee member Thorsrud commented that it was good to be here today.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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 Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom webinar.



RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK II/ADA COORDINATOR

Approved: July 14, 2022