

ADA COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 8, 2021

Session 21-05, a Regular Meeting of the ADA Compliance Committee was called to order by Acting Chair Donna Aderhold at 4:06 p.m. on July 8, 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

**ABSENT:** PAM VANHOOZER

**STAFF:** RENEE KRAUSE, DEPUTY CITY CLERK/ADA COORDINATOR  
OWEN MEYER, PROJECT TECHNICIAN

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

Acting Chair Aderhold read the supplemental items and changes: Pending Business Review of Findings of Site Accessibility Surveys Conducted at Bishop's Beach and Karen Hornaday Park and Memorandums from ADA Coordinator and Project Technician as backup.

GEISLER/CLYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.

There was a brief discussion on adding the topic of increasing the number of members on the Committee to the agenda. Staff provided guidance on the notice requirements stating that it could be on the next agenda.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

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

Lora Haller, Islands and Ocean Visitor Center, Alaska Department of Fish & Game, commented that she would be happy to assist the Committee and lend her experience in accessibility with parks and trails.

**RECONSIDERATION**

There were no items scheduled.

**SYNOPSIS APPROVAL**

A. Regular Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2021

Acting Chair Aderhold requested a motion to approve the minutes.

GEISLER/CLYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 10, 2021.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

## **VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS**

### **PENDING BUSINESS**

- A. Review of Findings for Parks, Trails & Campground Accessibility Review – Supplemental Packet

Acting Chair Aderhold introduced the item by reading of the title. She invited Deputy City Clerk Krause to provide input for the Committee.

Deputy City Clerk Krause provided a brief synopsis of her memorandum and the items provided in the supplemental that should have been included for the site accessibility surveys the Committee conducted at Bishop's Beach Park and Karen Hornaday Park. She opined that the documents would have provided clarification on the process.

Acting Chair Aderhold invited Project Technician Meyer to provide his report for the Committee. He then reviewed the three points in his memorandum as follows: creating a schedule and performing future site accessibility surveys; training to conduct the site accessibility surveys for playground facilities and then creating the documentation of their work.

Member Geisler stated that David Barton was no longer with the Northwest ADA Center and that role was now being filled by two other persons. She volunteered to contact them regarding training and including Deputy City Clerk Krause on the email she sent. Ms. Geisler then commented on the information from the supplemental packet provided clarification on how they should conduct the playground accessibility. She further noted that previously City Clerk Jacobsen as the City ADA Coordinator, along with Deputy City Clerk Tussey kept the files and documents so she felt that Ms. Krause should be responsible for that document coordination.

Deputy City Clerk Krause agreed with Ms. Geisler and noted that was one of her main responsibilities was to make sure the city owned facilities were compliant as well as field complaints that the city received.

Further discussion was facilitated by Acting Chair Aderhold on the following:

- Benefits to having a wheelchair user in the group when performing site accessibility surveys
- Having the data sheets for the parking lot for each location, measuring each parking space and knowing whether those parking spaces are suppose to provide access
- Noting the lack of designated parking spaces at Karen Hornaday Park
- The Handicapped Parking spaces at Bishop's Beach only provide access to the restroom facilities, which are closed and the temporary portable toilets do not have proper access to them
- The group will have to revisit those two parks since they have the correct sheets

- It was not wasted time since they did get to view the parks and see what was there and not there

GEISLER/CLYNE MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ALLOW MS. HALLER TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR DISCUSSION SINCE SHE ATTENDED THE SITE ACCESSIBILITY SURVEYS.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Ms. Haller recommended looking at the materials to familiarize themselves with the standards before going onsite to perform the surveys.

Further discussion on the ability to have a facilitator at the next meeting to review the documents and process was believed to be very beneficial for the group; it would also be good to have the information of any projects that are planned for the City facilities and that information can be transferred into the transition plan.

Acting Chair Aderhold stated that it would be great to have the information from the NW ADA Center and the planned improvements for Karen Hornaday Park before they scheduled another visit.

Project Technician Meyer advocated for scheduling further visits at different locations without playgrounds, noting that he went to the Seafarer's Memorial and he saw a couple of things there such as lips that you would not be able to get a wheelchair over easily and slope that is a bit too steep. Mariner Park is another place that would be a good place to visit. He believed that the information they need is on the playground stuff and they could visit other areas that did not have a playground. He then noted that Jack Gist Park would be another good place to visit.

Acting Chair Aderhold commented that there is not much that is accessible at Mariner Park and what would be required to be accessible. There is the gazebo, fee cabin and restrooms.

Member Geisler commented that it is a campground and should have an accessible camping spot or two. The things that she included in her notes were the signage, accessible routes or paths of travel. She agreed that they should review and get familiar with what is required since they are outdoors which is different than an existing facility. She reiterated contacting the NWADA Center on training.

There was a brief discussion on availability for visiting the Spit recreation facilities and Jack Gist Park. It was decided that Friday, July 23, 2021 from 9:00 am to 12:00 p.m. starting at Mariner Park, then the campground by Pier One, pavilion by the fishing lagoon, End of the Road Park and Seafarer's Memorial.

Member Clyne at this time tendered his resignation from the Committee citing health issues.

Discussion continued establishing Friday, August 6, 2021 9:00 am to Noon for Jack Gist Park

Deputy City Clerk Krause will send meeting invites to the Parks Commissioners Lewis and Lowney and Parks Superintendent Steffy regarding the upcoming meetings. These will also be advertised.

Deputy City Clerk Krause will provide the data sheets and gather the tools, Project Technician Meyer will pick up the data sheets and clipboards from the Clerk's Office to bring to the group.

Acting Chair Aderhold inquired if there was any additional discussion. There was none.

B. Draft Parks, Campgrounds and Trails Transition Plan

Acting Chair Aderhold introduced the item and invited Deputy City Clerk Krause to provide input.

Deputy City Clerk inquired if the Committee would like to address this document now or wait until they had some data to add to it from their accessibility surveys, then they address the formatting of the document.

The Committee expressed waiting to review the draft document after they had some of the data to merge with the document.

**NEW BUSINESS**

A. Next Steps in Performing Accessibility Compliance Review

Acting Chair Aderhold noted that they addressed this item under Pending Business but reiterated the proposed Accessibility Surveys to be conducted July 23, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the Homer Spit starting at Mariner Park then Friday, August 6, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Jack Gist Park.

**INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

A. News Article Patch, April 19, 2021 Columbia, Maryland Nonverbal Communication Boards Installed At New HoCo Playground

Acting Chair Aderhold introduced the item by reading of the title and commented that she thought it was really cool.

Deputy City Clerk Krause commented that she thought it was pretty neat and would be a great project to have a local artist do for our parks.

**COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

**COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF**

**COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE**

Member Geisler commented that she thought they were headed in the right direction and will followup on the facilitated training.

Member Clyne apologized for his lack of training in this area, but there are so many things that could be improved in this community to make it a better place to live as well as for visitors when they come because we might have so much more to offer and handicap requirements are very different than for the general public.

Acting Chair Aderhold thanked Roger for joining them on the Committee for the time he could, wishing him the best and that she will be thinking of him.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The Committee will be performing Site Accessibility Surveys conducted on Friday, July 23, 2021 starting at Mariner Park from 9:00 a.m. to Noon and Friday, August 6, 2021 at Jack Gist Park 9:00 a.m. to Noon. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers via Zoom Webinar located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska.



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RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, DEPUTY CITY CLERK/ADA COORDINATOR

Approved: August 12, 2021