

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Session 24-04 a Regular Meeting of the ADA Advisory Board was called to order by Chair Christine Thorsrud at 4:00 p.m. on June 13, 2024 from the Cowles Council Chambers, City Hall, located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom webinar.

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS LEPLEY, PARSONS, THORSRUD, SAFRA, VENUTI, O'BRIEN, GEISLER

STAFF: ACTING CITY CLERK/ADA COORDINATOR KRAUSE, SPECIAL PROJECTS & COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR CARROLL

## **AGENDA APPROVAL**

VENUTI/LEPLEY MOVED TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO ADDRESS NEW BUSINESS ITEM A PRIOR TO PENDING BUSINESS.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

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

Pat Case, city resident, provided his observations on the upper poopdeck trail and making it accessible and connecting into the Library Story Trail and points south. He advocated for reviewing what could be conducted locally before seeking outside assistance.

## **RECONSIDERATION**

### **VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS**

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A. Unapproved Special Meeting Minutes for June 13, 2024

LEPLEY/VENUTI MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FOR JUNE 13, 2024.

There was no discussion.

VOTE: NON OBJECTION: UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Motion carried.

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

### **A. Monthly ADA Coordinator Report - July 2024**

Chair Thorsrud introduced the item and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause.

Ms. Krause noted that she did not have time to provide a written report but acknowledged the City did receive notice through the Division of Elections regarding non-compliant accessibility for City Hall as a polling place. She reported that it does not affect the City in as much as they do have a transition plan and two of the three issues mentioned are regarding the issue of slope exceeding the stated regulations for the accessible parking spaces, the third was there is no defined accessible route from the public sidewalk at Pioneer Avenue to the lower entrance of city hall. That will need to be addressed in re-design of the parking lot. The city will be looking at getting the issues addressed but the State may have to look into alternate options for a polling place if the City does not correct the issues in the short term.

## **PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

### **PENDING BUSINESS**

#### **A. Draft Trail Appendix for Transition Plan**

Ms. Krause stated that she appreciated the group photo.

Board member Safra explained her intent was to encourage participation and joining the Board.

Ms. Krause explained that the Trail Transition Plan would be handled a bit differently than the facilities and parks transition plans in that there was limited scope and regulations that applied to the few trails that were being included so would be used as presented. Similar to an appendix and expressed her appreciation for Board members Safra and O'Brien putting the information in the draft document and will be doing a few minor amendments regarding formatting. This will be included in a draft document to be presented to City Council for adoption as a whole once finalized this fall. Ms. Krause explained that she will need to review the document with Public Works on the timing and expense components of the plan and hoped to be able to get that done before October.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. FY26 Capital Improvement Plan Review and Recommendations**

Chair Thorsrud introduced the item by reading of the title and welcomed Special Projects & Communications Coordinator Carroll.

Jenny Carroll introduced herself and provided a brief explanation of the Capital Improvement Plan process explaining the public process, selection and prioritization of projects for inclusion in the plan, the purpose to have the plan and resulting benefits to having a plan. She further explained how she implements the CIP for funding availability/streams.

Ms. Carroll stated that the process is iterative and will be presented to City Council at the Council meeting in late August and then will be brought forward for Council approval by resolution at a meeting in September. Changes are in red and there have been some changes since the materials were submitted for the packet. She noted the projects funded that were of interest to the Board, would be removed, the Homer All Ages Pathways Loop was scheduled for 2027 for construction. There is a lot of work to do still but it is still exciting that it was selected and did really well.

- Homer Harbor Expansion project
- Library Security Gate
- Bayview Park Restoration Project

Ms. Carroll reviewed the recommendations in the memorandum on submitting their recommendations through staff to City Council. She responded to questions from the Board on the following:

- process regarding the length of time it takes from selecting a project to getting it constructed,
- adding projects to the CIP by a motion from the Board;
- updating existing project page to include the automatic door at the lower entrance;
- completing projects from the transition plan that are included in the CIP;
- Removal of projects from the CIP.

PARSONS/VENUTI MOVED TO ADD AUTOMATIC DOOR OPENING TO THE LOWER ENTRANCE TO CITY HALL AS A NEW PROJECT FOR THE ACCESSIBILITIES SECTION OF THE CIP.

There was a brief discussion on the benefits and difficulties individuals have in opening the door.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Ms. Krause clarified that automatic door openers are not required, but having accessible handles and the pull force is required to be a set amount and building maintenance is constantly monitoring the pull and closing timing of the doors to City Hall.

Additional discussion by the Board focused on the goals of the Board

Ms. Carroll facilitated discussion on the Fish Grinding Building and the Nick Dudiak Lagoon Accessible Fishing Ramp projects regarding funding.

Ms. Krause provided information on the status of the Airport improvements projects.

PARSONS/LEPLEY MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS IN PRIORITY ORDER:

1. REMOVING CITY HALL ACCESS BARRIERS AT CITY HALL AND REMOVING PARKING AND PAVEMENT ACCESSIBILITY BARRIERS AT CITY FACILITIES;
2. THE NICK DUDIAK FISHING LAGOON ACCESSIBILITY RAMP AND PLATFORM PROJECT;

### 3. THE MULTI-USE COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER PROJECT;

Discussion on the inclusion of ADA Accessible Load and Launch Ramp which will be on the August agenda and having Aaron Glidden, Deputy Harbormaster and Port Director, Bryan Hawkins attend the meeting.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Board member Venuti confirmed with the Clerk that she will send the recommendations to Ms. Carroll.

### **INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS**

- A. 2024 Annual Calendar
- B. City Manager's Report for June 10, 2024 City Council Meeting

Ms. Krause reported that Board member Safra and Parsons terms expired on August 31<sup>st</sup> this year.

Chair Thorsrud commented that each member brings a great quality, interest and commitment to the Board.

### **COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE**

Pat Case, city resident, commented that he appreciated being included in the trail audits and created a greater vision for wheelchair access. He then announced the Celebration Event on the passage of the ADA and once again everyone is invited including City Council, July 26<sup>th</sup> Noon to 3:00 p.m. Last year they had a nice little walk and this year they are going to have a staff member from the Library to provide a tour of the west lot after eating. Mr. Case reported speaking with DOT regarding the status update for the audible crosswalk and it is scheduled for July and also spoke to her regarding Lake Street and Smokey Bay Way, Cramer Lane.

### **COMMENTS OF THE STAFF**

Ms. Krause reported that she will be keeping her duties of the ADA Coordinator for the city when she transitions to the position of City Clerk.

### **COMMENTS OF THE BOARD**

Board member Venuti shared a commentary that was in the Anchorage newspaper on Workable Communities could help Alaska tackle its health issues and a city in Minnesota made bike lanes, sidewalks and were surprised when reports came in that research showed it increased resident's lifespans by 2.9 years and they saved over 7 million dollars in health care for local employers, so Alaska really has no excuse.

Board member Lepley thanked Mr. Case for being a staunch advocate for the ADA Board and participating in their activities.

Board member Safra congratulated Ms. Krause and expressed her appreciation of her staying on as ADA Coordinator and was very excited for Ms. Krause with her new opportunities. Ms. Safra then expressed appreciation for Mr. Cases' awesome tenacity and for not being an actual Board member he was the best and was part of them while not being a member. She then explained that Doug and her decided that they could do the work of matching the pictures with the text and so sat down and did it. She expressed her thanks to Doug for and excellent partner in the project and announced that it is Disability Pride Month and in Soldotna they will be celebrating on July 20<sup>th</sup>. She will be gone for August.

Board member Parsons distributed the flyers, expressed kudos to Renee on her promotion and appreciation as always to Pat.

Board member Geisler expressed her congratulations and appreciation to Renee and pat and then added that they will have live music and someone donated a king salmon to the picnic so advised getting there early.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Thorsrud adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m. The next regular meeting is Thursday, August 8, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. All meetings are scheduled to be held in City Hall Conference Room located upstairs at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska, 99603 and via Zoom webinar.

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RENEE KRAUSE, MMC, ACTING CITY CLERK

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