

Session 22-04 a Regular Meeting of the ADA Compliance Committee was called to order by Chair Donna Aderhold at 4:03 p.m. on July 14, 2022, from the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers located at 491 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska and via Zoom webinar.

PRESENT: COMMITTEE MEMBERS ADERHOLD, GEISLER, DEADRICK, PARSONS AND THORSRUD

ABSENT: COMMITTEE MEMBER SAFRA (EXCUSED)

STAFF: ADA COORDINATOR KRAUSE
PROJECT TECHNICIAN MEYER

Committee member Safra had technical difficulties and was unable to join the meeting from her location. Her absence will be excused.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Aderhold requested a motion to approve the agenda.

GEISLER/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 April 14, 2022
- B. Regular Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2022

Chair Aderhold requested a motion to approve the minutes.

GEISLER/THORSRUD MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 14TH AND JUNE 9, 2022 MEETINGS.

There was no discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

VISITORS/PRESENTATIONS

REPORTS

A. Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon ADA Ramp Status Update - Matt Steffy, Parks Superintendent

Parks Superintendent Steffy was not present at this meeting. Special Projects & Communications Coordinator Jenny Carroll was present and felt that she could provide the project status update.

Ms. Carroll provided a synopsis of the information provided in the packet. She then noted the preferred solution of the ramp and floating dock which will accommodate the varying tides and negate ice damage, was removable and did not require the extensive maintenance.

Project Technician Meyer arrived to the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Ms. Carroll facilitated discussion on the following points:

- Access being on south side of the lagoon preferred over the access being shown on the west side of the lagoon
- Design would accommodate 2-3 persons fishing on the platform
- Access not impeding other areas of fishing
- Costs directing selection over appropriate choice in design
- Ramps provide the value of uses for multiple people with differing mobility issues such as wheelchairs to young children.
- Long lasting and quality project preferred
- Access to the ADA parking would be preferred and convenient
 - Having access to fish cleaning tables and restroom facilities as well in the same area
- Soonest the project could be included in the budget is end of FY2023 realistically looking at a 2-3 year span with many agencies involved, project concerning sport fishing there is likely budget funding available to obtain funding for the project.
 - It will be easier to determine a time frame when costs are available for the project.
- The Committee can assist by contacting the state legislators for Homer and advocating for the project
- This is a popular fishing site for visitors and residents alike.

Ms. Carroll noted that the valuable input received from the ADA Committee and Port & Harbor Advisory Commission would be used for future support of the project.

Chair Aderhold provided some historical perspective of a former ADA Committee person that used a wheelchair and initiated addressing the accessibility issue at the lagoon.

B. Staff Report for June and July 2022

Chair Aderhold introduced the item and invited ADA Coordinator Krause to provide her report.

ADA Coordinator Krause noted her report was on page 99 of the packet and did not have anything to add to the report. She was open questions or comments on the material.

Chair Aderhold noted the complaints received and that the City has gone quite some time since receiving a complaint, it appears that people are feeling comfortable submitting complaints, even though they are not about city facilities.

PENDING BUSINESS

A. Memorandum from ADA Coordinator re: Community Accessibility Survey Final Draft

Chair Aderhold introduced the item by reading of the title and offered the floor to Ms. Krause to speak to her memorandum or open for general discussion by the Committee.

Ms. Krause noted that she made the additional updates and corrections as requested by the Committee from the last meeting.

The following points were brought forward and discussed by the Committee members and Staff present:

- Clarification on the distribution methods for the survey once approved by the City Manager
- inclusion of specifics to the improvements for the fishing lagoon
- highlighting that project of a new accessible fishing dock in the local media to receive more support
 - o The project is not at the stage to share with the community and that the Committee should exercise caution before bringing the project to the public until it is solidified.
- Correct the first word in question #8 to "are"
- Add the optional contact information block with language that if you would like to be contacted to provide additional information
- Move question #3 to questions #7 and amend it to have a ranking of the responses
- Question #3 should be rephrased to: Which locations owned by the City of Homer are most important for you to access? Which locations are the most difficult for you to access?
- Ranking or prioritization is identified within the Transition Plan and should be used for ranking the responses which was established as follows:
 - o Priority 1 – Accessible Approach/Entrance
 - o Priority 2 - Access to Goods or Services
 - o Priority 3 – Access to Restrooms
 - o Priority 4 – Any other measures necessary or access to other amenities/services provided
- Part of the development of a transition plan was to obtain public input/participation and the idea came from Washington State Parks who created a brief survey regarding their parks.

- What is the purpose of the survey and the questions should be crafted to provide those responses that the Committee can use as guidance for improvements.
- Format and questions are really good and should be presented as provided since it is apparent a lot of work went into the creation of the survey and every time the committee reviews they will find another small change that could be made.
- Take question 3 and rephrase it to say what city owned location would you like to access but cannot due to and list the items
- Keep the question the same and then add the Why at the end since there are a number of reasons why
- There is some much information within this survey and it might be better to place the question towards the end of the survey
- Question 4 strike the words locations selected in question 3 and this then makes it more broader range
 - o will encourage a broader range of responses

ADA Coordinator Krause clarified the amendments made as follows:

- Move Question 3 to Question 7; Change the first word in Question 8 from “Is” to “Are”; Add in at the end of the survey optional “Please provide contact information”; Question 4, strike the words “locations found in Questions 3” and replace with “City of Homer Parks, Playgrounds, Campgrounds, etc.; Reword question 7 to state Which locations owned by the City of Homer are most important to you because of the amenities it provides” Then add a separate question, “Which locations owned by the City of Homer can you not access but would like to because of the amenities it provides” but with the same options.; and renumber questions appropriately.

Chair Aderhold noted that the survey would have additional review by the City Manager and requested a motion to approve the amended survey.

THORSRUD/GEISLER MOVED TO ADOPT THE AMENDMENTS AS STATED TO THE COMMUNITY ACCESSIBILITY SURVEY AND FORWARD TO THE CITY MANAGER.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

B. Parks, Play Areas & Campgrounds Transition Plan Draft

Chair Aderhold introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to ADA Coordinator Krause.

ADA Coordinator Krause provided a synopsis of pages 107 – 114 stating that she developed the spreadsheet which represents the noncompliance issues found when the Committee performed the site evaluations. She noted that each are categorized by the priority level and the relevant section of the regulations with the possible solutions. These will then be transferred to the table in the Transition Plan with a coordinating picture of the non-compliant issue. She noted the updates to the table on pages 125 to 143.

Committee member Parsons complimented Ms. Krause on the exemplary work and efforts in presenting the work done to date. He stated he has worked on several similar committees and this was by far the best he has seen.

Committee members Geisler, Deadrick and Thorsrud echoed the sentiments and complimented Ms. Krause on her work and progress with the document.

Chair Aderhold commented on the difficulty that a contractor would have in determining costs effectively if there are no recommendations for solutions to correct the issues and that before they submit this to one of the firms that the city has a term contract with the Committee should make sure that they have included solutions to correct the non-compliance.

Ms. Krause stated in response that for the last Transition Plan completed on the city buildings, the City Clerk was the appointed ADA Coordinator and she met with the Superintendent of Public Works and reviewed the non-compliant issues determining which issues could be incorporated into the general building maintenance scheduled work and which issues would need to be contracted out. They were able to estimate the costs at Public Works providing a ballpark number to put into the document. She was under the impression that the same should be able to be done with the Parks Transition Plan. The Public Works Director had informed her that current staff did not have the time or expertise to go through the document.

ADA Coordinator Krause facilitated discussion on the following:

- How the table will be included and missing information will be transferred from the spreadsheet to the table
- missing information needed for the Beluga Slough Trail
- a draft completed transition plan is tentatively scheduled for the October meeting
- due to the enormous amount of information provided many of the pictures were removed as there were either no issues or duplicates

Chair Aderhold thanked everyone for their work on the transition plan so far.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Capital Improvement Plan - ADA Compliance Projects - Amendments & Updates

Chair Aderhold introduced the item by reading of the title and deferred to Jenny Carroll, Special Projects & Communications Coordinator.

Committee member Geisler stated that she had a prior meeting scheduled and needed to depart the meeting.

Chair Aderhold confirmed with the Clerk that there was still a quorum present and the meeting continued.

Ms. Carroll explained the purpose and use of the Capital Improvement Plan for the Committee. She noted that this plan is aligned with the other approved plans of the city including the Transportation

Plan, Comprehensive Plan, etc. She then reviewed the current projects related to ADA Compliance that were in the CIP.

Ms. Carroll facilitated discussion on the following:

- ADA paving projects being paired with Small Works Paving Projects
 - o Leveling the City Hall Parking lot is more intense engineering than initially thought as it deals with the entrances as well
- Separating the projects from the paving, entrance access, etc.
- Suggestion to move the ADA portion to just the upper lot but access must be allowed for the lower portion as well since the elevator is non-compliant
- Nick Dudiak Fishing Lagoon – preferred plan for a new fishing access
 - o There is no costs at this time
 - o Priority project of the Committee
- the Council prioritization process
- The lack of State funding for projects over the last several years
- a more fully complete draft of the CIP along with a memo for Committee review
- Other ADA projects are able to be locally addressed
- Projects under Parks & Recreation that could include ADA in the descriptions and the Committee can support those projects as well.
- Typical process of presenting the CIP to the Advisory Body, these were requested by Public Works Director for review of the proposed amendments.
- Removal of the Public Restroom Barrier project from the CIP
 - o Included in the CIP to make sure that it does get addressed
 - o establish annual schedule for follow-up

THORSRUD/DEADRICK MOVE TO DELETE THE PUBLIC RESTROOM ACCESSIBILITY BARRIER REMOVAL PROJECT FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND HAVE THE COMMITTEE UPDATED ON THE STATUS OF THE PROJECT AS IT IS COMPLETED WITHIN OTHER PROJECTS.

There was a brief discussion on restroom projects such as the removal of the restroom in Karen Hornaday Park.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

Discussion continued on the small update from the Public Works Director, on the parking paving project, it was noted that the Phase I of the Harbor was completed and should be removed. It was noted that the transition plan should be moved to the completed projects. Clarification was provided on what occurs next in the process with projects that are completed such as the transition plan. This document will be going before Council in September. Ms. Carroll explained where the Committee can locate the full document on the city website.

The agreed by consensus to move the transition plan project to the completed list and will note on the project page the updated information.

Chair Aderhold opened discussion on holding a special meeting regarding review of the CIP.

Further discussion ensued on the process for selecting and recommending projects for the CIP. The Committee would be requested to prioritize the projects to be included in the legislative priorities. Additionally the change in the projects as previously stated.

Discussion then ensued on availability for a special meeting. Committee Deadrick stated her availability and that she will be starting a new job but currently has a pre-arranged date of August 4, 2022.

Deputy City Clerk Krause reminded the Committee members that a special meeting does not require a start time of 4:00 p.m. and there are two additional members that are not present who will need to be polled.

DEADRICK/PARSONS MOVED TO HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING IN AUGUST AT A DATE AND TIME TO BE DETERMINED TO ADDRESS THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS.

There was no further discussion.

VOTE. NON-OBJECTION. UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

Motion carried.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

A. Proposed Seafarer's Memorial ADA Improvements

B. ADA Committee Agenda Calendar for 2022

Chair Aderhold noted that this may be a good time to discuss Committee Member Deadrick availability and the possibility of amending the meeting time to allow her to continue her participation. It was further pointed out that it may encourage the last vacancy to be filled if the meeting time is set for 5:00 p.m. or later. Chair Aderhold noted that meetings were originally scheduled for 4:00 p.m. to minimize staff time and overtime involved.

Deputy City Clerk Krause will look into the requirements but did not believe that there was any deterrent to change the time. She recommended putting the time change on the August special meeting agenda and then it can be addressed through the normal resolution amending the meeting time. She noted that she will contact the Committee to get the best available time and date.

COMMENTS OF THE AUDIENCE

COMMENTS OF THE CITY STAFF

Deputy City Clerk Krause thanked the committee for a great meeting and appreciated the compliments.

COMMENTS OF THE COMMITTEE

Committee member Deadrick complimented Deputy City Krause on her great work and does not know what they would do without her.

Committee Member Parsons expressed his appreciation to being in attendance and looks forward to digging in more good work and looking forward to more work being completed.

Committee Member Thorsrud thanked Ms. Krause for her work and echoed Mr. Parsons' sentiments.

Chair Aderhold expressed her appreciation for everyone's willingness to work through the details, she noted that as an old project manager used to say, changing from happy to glad but sometimes that is important. She again expressed her appreciation for everyone willing to work and extra hour and twenty minutes tonight and welcomed Mr. Parsons to the Committee. She looks forward to having a full committee but at least now they are able to maintain a quorum. She further commented that making a change in the meeting time may be good to fill the last vacancy.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no quorum to conduct business the meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m. A Special Meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 15, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room upstairs at City Hall. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 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: _____