

Disabilities Advisory Commission Minutes
April 14, 2014

Present: Vern Richardson, John Suess, Chris Kanowitz, B.J. Michels, Chauncey Taylor, Zach Wood, John Teumer, and Bettie Greenberg

Absent: Dave McDanal, Diane Hinrichs, and Larry Abston

Meeting Called to Order: 6:05 p.m.

Minutes: John T. moved to approve the minutes; Zach seconded the motion. Motion approved.

LIAISON REPORTS

Staff Liaison: Bettie said that the Boards and Commission recruitment is occurring. Members that have terms ending in June need to reapply. She asked members to urge others to apply for vacancies. Bettie reported that the City is updating its Comprehensive Master Plan. DAC should be involved in the process to help assure that the needs of people with disabilities are represented. Finally, Leona Watson tendered her resignation from DAC via an e-mail.

Council Report: Chauncey reported that an election will be held July 29, on the fracking moratorium. There is some consideration to moving the date to coincide with the County's primary elections. The election will likely be done as a mail-in ballot. Chauncey mentioned that the City has several high level job openings. Council is using a headhunter to recruit a new City Attorney. The City is also recruiting for a new Public Works Director and a new Fire Chief. Council is only involved with the City Attorney recruitment process, since only the City Manager, City Attorney, and the Municipal Judge answer directly to them. Chauncey discussed the cost of the flood. The City incurred about \$2 million in emergency response costs and approximately \$24 million in recovery expenses. Although the City will receive reimbursement from its insurance and FEMA, there will still be \$2-3 million in flood-related expenses that the City will have to pay.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Accessibility Report: John S. said that he is on the Access Board's e-mail list. The Access Board is working on a guide to ADA standards. So far, three chapters are done. John offered to bring in information. Bettie said she'd share the link. <http://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/buildings-and-sites/about-the-ada-standards/guide-to-the-ada-standards>

Transportation: John T. said that COLT has a new manager who attended to NFRMPO meeting. John T. also said that COLT didn't apply for the \$45,000 grant that was available, which may be why COLT only could upgrade a few bus stops.

PR/Communication: No report.

OTHER BUSINESS

People First Festival: Members discussed having a booth at the festival. DAC needs to reach out to the Youth Advisory Commission to see if their members will help. Diane had said that she would reach out to YAC. Bettie will send Diane a reminder.

Affordable Housing: Discussed that affordable housing has been a big topic. It would be helpful if some of the downtown development included affordable housing.

Adjournment: Zach moved to adjourn; John S. seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Adjourned: 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bettie Greenberg, Secretary