

Disabilities Advisory Commission  
Minutes March 8, 2010

Present: John Suess, Vic Beebe, Alexandra Wittenmyer, Nancy Jones, Hal Mansfield, Larry Abston, Daryle Klassen, Dave McDanal, Kim Cardwell, Bob Mouser, Diane Traylor, Sharon Thomas, Vern Richardson

Absent: Linda Benefiel, Bettie Greenberg

Guests: Chris Kanowitz, John Teumer, Zach Wood, Chris, and Bruce Philbrick

Meeting called to order: 6:00 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes: Hal moved to accept the minutes as distributed, Larry seconded.

Treasurer Report: No report, hasn't received a new statement.

GUEST PRESENTATION:

City of Loveland Solid Waste: Bruce Philbrick, Solid Waste Superintendent joined us to discuss what the City is doing to help the disabled.

The city has gone through a lot of changes the last few years. They have completely changed to a cart based trash and recycling system. 1/3 of the Loveland households use an optional yard debris cart. The change to the cart system has been primarily to protect the well being of the workers. As a side benefit they are able to save money as they just have to buy one style of truck so they don't have to have as many trucks. Some people have difficulty getting the carts to the street. They have had a list of people who requested help for years, that list is just mushrooming so they have needed to come up with an application process. Now an individual will need to complete an application and have a form completed by their doctor certifying that they are unable to get the carts to the street. Sharon raised a concern that the doctor's form also ask for a description of the 'functional limitations' of the individual. She believes that the doctor signing off saying the person is unable to get the carts to the street should suffice. It appears, with the request for the doctor to describe the limitations, that the city will be using some medical judgment to screen applicants. Hal asked if they would consider accepting other disability certifications instead of requiring a new one (the COLT one, for instance). Hal believes some people will have to pay for an office visit in order to get the form completed. Bruce will take these concerns back to the city attorney. The carts have to be outside the garage or in front of the house by 7 a.m. on pickup days, the city staff cannot go into enclosed areas or the garage to get the carts. They do not charge for this service. Bruce talked some about how the City of Loveland has gotten national attention for their successful recycling program. We are one of very few towns that are able to offer a 17 gallon cart. This cart is very small and most communities don't offer it, our recycling program is so good that we have some households that don't throw out much trash!

LIAISON REPORTS:

City Council: Daryl reported that the library expansion and Chilson Center expansion are going to happen. These projects will cost \$17-\$18 million dollars between the two of them. The city is tapping the capital expenditure fund for a lot of this money. The library has done an excellent job in raising

money for their project. The Community Marketing Commission is starting to meet. They expect that the lodging tax will raise \$350-\$400,000 per year.

DRS: Housing continues to be an issue for Dave's clients. 92% of his clients are low, very low or extremely low income. Subsidized government housing is really needed. Loveland Housing Authority has played a big role in government housing options in Loveland. They have recently stopped the application process for Section 8 housing as they want to clean up their current list and purge the names of people who no longer need the help or they have moved out of the area. They will resume accepting applications in mid April. The wait list is currently about 1 year. Dave said he has never seen it so bad. The Loveland Housing Authority just bought Creekside apartments (just east of 37<sup>th</sup> and 287). They are trying to renovate it and clean it up. Dave hopes there will be some units available this summer.

Staff: No report.

#### SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Accessibility: Vic reported that this committee has reviewed several plans lately:

Chilson Center: Handrails on stairs didn't wrap, conference room door not wide enough, they need to check door closure pressures and the committee recommended the addition of 10 additional handicap parking spaces although they will meet ADA requirements with the number they currently have, even with the addition of all the new parking they are putting in. Daryl will send note to city manager requesting additional handicap parking spots.

Larimer County Fairgrounds building: The current bathrooms are going to be put back exactly as they are now so there was nothing to review there. Countertops need to have 1 section that is no higher than 34".

Summit Pathology: Countertops need to have one section that is no higher than 34".

Lake Vista Apartments: No accessible units going in. Laundry room is not big enough to be accessible. The ADA garages are not van accessible. In the welcome center they need to modify doors and counters.

Employment: Alexandra reports that there are not a lot of jobs and even less for people with restrictions. There is a 60-70% unemployment rate for people with disabilities. Diane asked if we ever thought about doing a disabilities job fair like the Senior Job Fair.

Housing: No report.

Parks and Rec: No report.

Transportation: Still looking at a one call center. Reviewing what other cities have already done with this.

PR/Communication: Hal has a message from Linda that the schools are in the middle of CSAP testing and they didn't want to talk to her until after the testing is done. Oddfellows are having a networking breakfast. Linda will have information available about how to work with the disabled. The breakfast is

on 3/27. Diane has made contact with the Youth Advisory Board and they are willing to help out with our projects.

Historian: No report.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Diane still plans to get something written up regarding the Budweiser Event Center handicap seating. She will try to get this done in the next couple of weeks.

Daryle reported that he checked on the sidewalk obstruction on 4<sup>th</sup> street and there is currently work happening in that building.

#### NEW BUSINESS

John wondered if we should work on the committee goals for 2010.

The building department suggested that someone from our committee attend the Construction Advisory Board. Vern will attend.

Hal suggested that we have an adaptive technology fair.

Diane has a four sided spinning display that will hold 4 poster boards. She will make the boards if we have somewhere where we can display it. People suggested that we could put it at the library, businesses, and fairs. Diane will need input on what to put on the boards.

Subcommittee Assignments: (Sharon will not be continuing on the committee after her term is up)

**Employment:**

Nancy  
Alexandra  
Chris

**PR/Communication:**

Linda  
Kim  
Diane

**Parks/Rec**

Larry  
Bob  
Vern

**Accessibility:**

Vic  
John  
Larry  
Zach

**Transportation:**

Hal  
Bob  
Linda

**Historian:**

Hal

We decided that the work of the housing committee is complete so we dropped it. Zach is interested in applying to the commission.

Hal moved that we accept these committee assignments. Sharon seconded.

Vic moved to adjourn. Hal seconded.