

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
NORTH MESA SENIOR CENTER
1112 N. MESA

Friday, January 8, 2016 at 10:30 AM

Voting Members Present: Don Neighbors
Tom Kirby
Machell Tackett
Brent Griffith

Voting Members Absent: Deborah Pinching

Ex-Officio Members Present: Randy Galindo, Safety Manager

Ex-Officio Members Absent:

Others Present: Jerry Remler
Katie Nichols

- 1. ROLL CALL OF VOTING MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:** Meeting was called to order by **Mr. Kirby**. It was determined there was a quorum.
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** **Mr. Kirby** moved to approve the Agenda, **Mr. Neighbors** seconded the motion.
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 6, 2015:** **Mr. Neighbors** moved to approve the minutes, **Ms. Tackett** seconded the motion.

4. **DISCUSSION OF CITY ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES:** **Mr. Galindo** asked if members have completed the questionnaire from Councilwoman Whitlock that were handed out at the November meeting. **Mr. Neighbors** said the questionnaire made him aware of areas of need and asked how the issues would be addressed. **Mr. Kirby** stated that other municipalities will prioritize according to areas of the city and said that would be a good way to address the needs.

Mr. Neighbors pointed out the need for more handicapped parking spots in the downtown area, particularly on Canyon Street. He asked if there is a master plan for City growth and recommended getting some ideas together to present to the City planner addressing some of these concerns. He suggested the City purchasing land for a parking lot that would expand availability. **Mr. Griffith** has talked to Patsy Jackson, Arts & Culture Director for the City, about suggestions to purchase land for a parking area. **Ms. Jackson** said that land in the downtown area is in short supply. **Mr. Kirby** said owners are unwilling to sell property and that those avenues have been explored. **Ms. Tackett** pointed out the value of the survey is to identify the needs.

Ms. Remler recommended giving specific recommendations to the City for improvements. She asked if there were striped parking spaces, allowing easy ramp access. No one was aware of striped parking spaces in the downtown area. **Ms. Tackett** stated the lack of striped spaces makes it difficult for her to exit her van without hitting the curb or having to move into traffic, although there are adequate spaces at the Courthouse, ERA, at Greene and Main, behind the Post Office and in some of the bank parking lots. **Ms. Remler** also suggested talking to some of the local churches to see if they would be willing to allow use of a corner of their parking lots for handicapped use.

Making the City “age friendly” was discussed. Solutions need to be geared to all ages and needs: for example, wheelchairs and strollers.

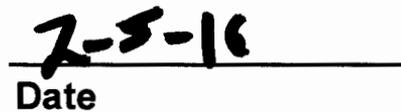
There was also discussion about the need for shelters at the Transit bus stops and provision of weekend transportation by the Transit Department.

Mr. Neighbors asked if the City Planner could come to the February meeting to discuss these issues with the Board. **Mr. Galindo** said he would ask if someone from the Permits, Engineering and Regulations Department would be available for the February meeting. There is not a City Planner on staff at the current time. He suggested that the Board think about coming to a City Council meeting to ask for help in finding solutions to the parking issue. **Mr. Neighbors** suggested asking Councilwoman Whitlock to come to a meeting as well. He said he would call her and invite her to the February meeting.

5. **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Kirby adjourned the meeting.



Chairman



Date