

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

Friday, February 5, 2016 at 10:30 AM

Voting Members Present: Don Neighbors
Tom Kirby
Deborah Pinching
Machell Tackett

Voting Members Absent: Brent Griffith

Ex-Officio Members Present: Randy Galindo, Safety Manager

Ex-Officio Members Absent:

Others Present: Mary Ann Dearing, HR Secretary
Jeff Patterson, Planning Director
Janell Whitlock, Councilor

- 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. Neighbors** motions to approve the Agenda, **Ms. Tackett** seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Yes – Neighbors, Pinching, Kirby, Tackett / No – None.
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 8, 2016:** **Ms. Tackett** motions to approve the minutes, **Mr. Neighbors** seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Yes – Neighbors, Pinching, Kirby, Tackett / No – None.

4. DISCUSSION OF CITY ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES:

Mr. Neighbors brought up the issue about the lack of handicap parking in the downtown area. **Mr. Galindo** informed the board that he counted 18 handicap parking spots. **Mr. Neighbors** stated that there is still not enough accessibility for the handicap, especially for those with side load vans, as most of them have sensors and the curb cutouts are too close, so the ramp does not lower all the way. **Ms. Taggett** stated that the lack of striped spaces makes it difficult for her to exit her van without hitting the curb. She also has to go around her van and that moves her into the traffic flow. **Mr. Neighbors** also reminded the board about the issue the Transit system has when dropping off passengers at Carlsbad Physical Therapy due to the fact that there are no downloading areas.

Mr. Neighbors also brought up the issue that not all the handicap parking spaces available were close to the businesses (especially for individuals who use walkers, etc.) and some of the handicap parking had them unloading next to the alley which he indicated was unsafe. **Mr. Neighbors** wanted to know if there was a possibility that a glass archway could be installed from the back parking lot thru the Artist Gallery to access the downtown area. **Ms. Whitlock** suggested that this concern should be addressed to the Main Street Committee.

Mr. Kirby brought up the idea of a parking garage as a solution. He also suggested the city look at purchasing abandoned buildings/lots to make a parking area in the downtown area. **Mr. Patterson** informed him that most of those lots were not for sale and the ones that were available were at a high cost. **Ms. Pinching** acknowledged that any solution to the parking situation had to be ideal to all individuals, including the elderly, especially as Carlsbad is trying to attract retirees to move here.

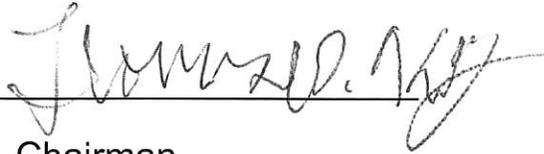
Mr. Patterson brought up the possibility that maybe parallel parking could be done on the south side of the courthouse, on Mermod Street. **Mr. Neighbors** thought was a great idea, however, warned that the County would probably fight them over the loss of parking for the courthouse. **Mr. Patterson** explained to the group that the best thing to do was for them to talk to **Mr. Carlson** and see what he thought about the idea. **Ms. Tackett** thought it was a good idea and thus far the best solution proposed by anyone.

Mr. Kirby suggested that given the city only has a certain amount of budget every year, that the city consider taking input from the Disability Board so they can give their opinions on areas that need the most work to make it ADA compliant. **Mr. Patterson** inquired if the committee had presented a list of the most troublesome areas to the city. **Mr. Neighbors** said that yes, they have had several meetings with **Mr. Carlson**. **Ms. Pinching** also stated that they have done several other things around town like distributing ADA cards and such to gain attention for the cause.

Mr. Kirby wants to do like Roswell did and come up with solutions on paper first, maybe be a five or ten year phase in period with their input, before the city implements any improvements to make sure that they meet the needs of ADA personnel. **Mr. Neighbors** wants more people to attend these meetings to brainstorm ideas. He wanted to know if **Ms. Whitlock**, **Mr. Patterson**, **Mr. Carlson** and **Mr. McCutcheon** or **Ms. Shumsky** would be available to attend the next meeting.

Mr. Kirby brought up the issue the handicap parking at the hospital is not wide enough, they are too narrow. **Ms. Tackett** suggested that he park in the handicap parking spots at the Diagnostic center.

5. **ADJOURMENT:** Mr. Kirby motions to adjourn, and Ms. Tackett seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.



Chairman

7-1-16

Date