

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD
NORTH MESA SENIOR CENTER
1112 N MESA
Friday, August 5, 2016 at 10:30 AM

Voting Members Present: Don Neighbors
Deborah Pinching
Machell Tackett

Voting Members Absent: Brent Griffith
Tom Kirby

Ex-Officio Members Present: Randy Galindo

Ex-Officio Members Absent:

Others Present: Tom Carlson
Pat Cass
Mary Ann Dearing
Karla Hamel
Reana Morales
Jeff Patterson

1. **ROLL CALL OF VOTING MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:**
Meeting was called to order by **Mr. Neighbors**. It was determined there was a quorum.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
Ms. Tackett motioned to approve the agenda. **Ms. Pinching** seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Yes – Neighbors, Pinching, Tackett; No – None.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING:**
Mr. Neighbors motioned to approve the minutes from July 1, 2016 meeting. **Ms. Pinching** seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Yes – Neighbors, Pinching, Tackett; No – None.

4. **DISCUSSION OF CITY ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES:**
Mr. Neighbors brought up the issue of parking and accessibility in the downtown area. He brought up as an example, the Cavern Fest Event. He stated that all the handicap parking was unavailable for the event. He also brought up that on most days accessibility to handicap parking in the downtown area is not available.

Ms. Hamel questioned what they meant by the parking being unavailable during Cavern Fest. There is a handicap parking outside across the street from her office and she states no one ever parks there. **Ms. Tackett** and **Mr. Neighbors** let her know the parking was not easily accessible especially for a side load/read load vehicle like the ones that they use.

Ms. Hamel brought up what Artesia did for their downtown parking, which was to angle the parking a certain degree so that it was ADA compliant. Individuals have enough room to unload from their vehicles safely. She inquired if that would make a difference here.

Mr. Carlson stated that there is budget for this new fiscal year so what he would like to propose is that on an individual basis, with **Mr. Neighbors** and **Ms. Tackett**, they go downtown and have them pick a spot that would be handy to them, and figure out what is wrong with the handicap spot and what can the city do to fix it. Maybe some of these handicap spots can be made more accommodating instead of just assigning additional handicap parking.

Mr. Patterson indicated that there were some ideas in the works, after the last meeting he attended in February. One idea is removing the fountain on Greene Street, and remarking the parking into parallel van parking. That would create at least an additional three parking spots that essentially would work for rear and side unloading vans.

Mr. Neighbors asked why they couldn't take three spaces at the courthouse and make them into one rear/side unload parking space. **Mr. Carlson** asked what about the other side of the courthouse, where there is space and the space is currently not designated for parking. **Mr. Carlson** said with a couple of changes the curb, etc., the parking space could be made usable for rear/side unloading.

Mr. Neighbors suggested setting up a working meeting one morning and meet at the downtown area and take a look at the handicap parking one block at a time. This would allow them to brainstorm together to see how any changes to handicap parking would affect all the affected businesses and the city. They set the date for August 12, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.

5. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Neighbors motions to adjourn the meeting and **Ms. Tackett** seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.



Chairman

9-2-16

Date