



**Municipality of Anchorage
AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT ADVISORY COMMISSION**

SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES

November 12, 2014

I Call to Order

A regular meeting of the ADA Advisory Commission was held at 10:38 a.m. on Wednesday, November 12, 2014 in the 4th floor conference room at 825 L Street, Department of Health and Human Services.

II Roll Call

Roll call was conducted; a quorum was in attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	GUESTS
<u>Commissioners</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Ziemer, Chair• Lynne Koral• Lynn Kenney• Christine King <u>Municipal Staff</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kristin Troxell, DHHS• Susan Shiffer, Public Transportation• Pamela Basler, AERC• Eric Musser, Transportation Inspector	<u>Commissioners</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Holli Yancey• Lindsay Davison• David Barton	Kathy Riker

III Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of December 2014 Facebook Public Education Campaign added under old business, motion to approve by Ms. Kenney, seconded by Ms. Koral.

IV Approval of Minutes

The October minutes were approved as written, motion to approve by Ms. King, seconded by Ms. Kenney.

V Public Comments

None.

VI Guest

Kathy Riker – Providing comments in regards to her experiences using AnchorRides and some of the problems she has encountered with the services offered. She voted on Election

Day and was using AnchorRides service for transportation to/from the voting location, 1200 W Dimond at the trailer park recreation hall. She had scheduled a pick up time of 12:45 pm, at 1:05 pm when the driver had still not arrived she called in to the AnchorRides dispatch to report. She ended up having to call several times before the driver finally arrived and did not get home until 2:15 pm. She suggested offering trips free of charge to those customers that are booking trips to go and vote on election days. Another issue that Ms. Riker has experienced with AnchorRides is in regards to jury duty. She served on jury duty the whole month of March 2014 and did not receive the level of service that she expected. She had problems the whole month because she would need to change the pick-up times on the same day as the reservation because the judge would change plans and AnchorRides does not take same day changes. She suggested that jury duty fall under the same rules as medical appointments and that same day changes are accepted to accommodate these clients. Another issue that Ms. Riker has experienced with AnchorRides is that it does not operate on holidays. As a result, she has to spend all holidays alone because she has no means of transportation on the holidays. Due to the size of her wheel chair she can not ride in taxis or regular vehicles, her only means of transportation is AnchorRides. Suggestion was made to offer limited trips on holidays and require that they be booked in advance. Another suggestion was made to have limited trips that go out to the Alaska State Fair in Palmer during August/September. Ms. Riker's experience with AnchorRides is that they don't treat their clients well and don't apologize. Ms. Riker requested that AnchorRides update their voice message because it is outdated. Recently attended a Public Transportation meeting and had the opportunity to speak with Lance Wilber, Public Transportation Director, about some of these issues.

Susan Shiffer, Public Transportation – Under the Americans with Disabilities Act Para transit guidelines there is a requirement that AnchorRides need to offer a similar service to that being offered to the general public fixed route via PeopleMover. PeopleMover is closed six holidays per year and AnchorRides is also closed on those six holidays. If Public Transportation wants to go beyond the minimum ADA requirements than they first have to make sure all the basics are being met. There are services available for the different groups of clients that are utilizing AnchorRides and it can get very confusing. There are different service parameters based on the service being utilized; Seniors, ADA & Medicaid waiver service.

Lynn Koral – Ms. Koral has had several issues lately regarding both taxi drivers not wanting to take her service dog and with the timely arrival of AnchorRides drivers. AnchorRides picked her up late for the Assembly meeting and she almost missed the acceptance of the Assembly Resolution.

Pamela Basler, AERC – Suggested that the State of Alaska should have the responsibility to provide transportation to jurors that need subsidized transportation. There may be a possibility of the State of Alaska Court System contracting with AnchorRides to provide transportation. Ms. Basler indicated that there is a Committee that is run by Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Dana Fabe called "Fairness, Diversity & Equality Committee", that are interested in these type of community issues, and may be interested in partnering up and brain storming solutions to the issue.

Christine King, ADA Commissioner – Suggested that Ms. Riker partner with Access Alaska or Alaska Mobility Coalition to approach the State of Alaska Court System to advocate for

accessible transportation solutions to citizens that are serving jury duty. Ms. King provided Ms. Riker with the contact information for both organizations that could be approached.

VII Municipal Reports

None.

VIII Updates from Chair

None.

IX Old Business

Title 21 Parking Recommendations – Erika McConnell, Planning Division Manager, is in attendance at the request of the ADA Commission to provide information regarding the Title 21 Accessible Parking. During the August 2014 Assembly ADA Work Session Dick Traini, Assembly Member, requested that the ADA Commission draft and submit any recommendations they have for updating the accessible parking section of Title 21. Ms. McConnell's group implements Title 21 which is the Land Use and Development Code in Municipality of Anchorage. Currently in a period of flux with title 21 and have two versions of Title 21 that are in effect. There has been a Title 21 re-write project occurring for the past decade. The portion of the code on accessible parking spaces is not that different between the two versions of the code. Suggestion was made that this information be pulled out of MuniCode and be separated and clearly displayed on the website so it is more visible to those who are looking for the information. Once this information has been clearly posted on the Community Development website a request was made that Ms. McConnell email Ms. Troxell. Ms. Troxell will then add a link from the ADA Advisory Commission website and share with the community via the ADA Facebook Page. The issues that the ADA Commission hears about regularly is the snow removal from these accessible parking spaces and enforcement making sure that only those permitted to park in the accessible parking spaces. There is a Code Enforcement part of the Municipal Code that will enforce that the specifications outlined in this section of Title 21 on accessible parking are being met. Ms. McConnell's group can determine if a building has been grandfathered in to previous version of Title 21. Commissioners will email all questions they have regarding this section of Title 21 to Ms. Troxell and they will be forwarded to Ms. McConnell for review. Ms. McConnell will attend the December meeting to provide responses to all questions so the Commission can finalize the recommendations that will be forwarded to the Assembly.

Service Animal Sub-Committee Update – Nothing to report at this time.

Universal Design for Accessible Taxis – Eric Musser, Transportation Inspector, is in attendance to discuss universal design for accessible taxis. Mr. Musser stated that the MOA's position on this issue is that the disability transportation vehicles that hold the disability taxi permits that are currently on the streets are all ADA compliant. The MOA is willing to work with community groups to discuss standards that go above and beyond the minimum ADA requirements. Mr. Musser has been trying to work with different groups for the past two years trying to come up with these standards but he has not received any recommendations to date. The Transportation Inspection Office must bring forward these recommendations during the month of January 2015 so they will need to receive the recommendation during December 2014. Musser invited the ADA Commission to attend the Assembly meeting on November 18th to provide testimony regarding UBER which does not have any disability transportation included.

Facebook Public Education Campaign – December 2014 – Christine King is taking the lead on the Facebook Public Education Campaign for the month of December 2014 and the topic is Universal Human Rights Month & Disability Etiquette.

X New Business

None

XI Good of the Order

XII Announcements

XIII Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at 10:30 am in the 5ⁿ floor conference room, at the Department of Health and Human Services located at 825 L Street.