

SIERRA VISTA COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
FEBRUARY 11, 2015
CITY MANAGER CONFERENCE ROOM
MEETING SUMMARY

Ms. Bahk called the meeting of the Sierra Vista Commission on Disability Issues to order at approximately 3:30 p.m. in the City Manager Conference Room.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Salina Bahk, Vice-Chair
Harry Walther
Marshall Harper
Joan Vokins
Summer Morefield

MEMBERS ABSENT: Virginia Gannon, Chair

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PRESENT: Audrey Peterson-Hosto
Amy Carter

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ABSENT: Jessica Donnelly

STAFF LIAISON: Jeff Pregler

COUNCIL LIAISON: Councilmember Alesia Ash

OTHERS PRESENT: Roy Vokins
Kristopher Rangel
Tom Reardon
Georgie Schumaker

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Mr. Harper motioned to accept the agenda. Ms. Vokins seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous to accept (4-0).

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

1. Mr. Harper motioned to accept the minutes for the January 15, 2015 meeting. Mr. Walther seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous to accept (5-0).

PUBLIC INTRODUCTION

Mr. Rangel, Mr. Reardon, and Ms. Schumaker introduced themselves.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Discussion with Ryan Kooi on Vista Transit disability issues.

Ryan Kooi discussed the current transit system and the bus shelters. First, he stated that the benches located within the shelters are being replaced with smaller accessible benches, which will allow for wheelchairs to maneuver under the shelter. Second, Vista Transit will be relocating existing bus shelters that are not currently ADA accessible to areas that are accessible such as locations that have ADA ramps, sidewalks, and multi-use paths.

Mr. Kooi continues by stating that the Short Range Transit Plan provided a number of recommendations to improve service. One such recommendation is bi-directional service which allows the rider to be dropped-off on one side of the street and picked-up on the opposite side. Another recommendation is to interline the routes which would combine route destinations. The benefit is that the rider can stay on the same bus to reach their destination rather than transfer to another bus at the transfer station.

The Commission asked about additional bus stops in the City, specifically along Fry Boulevard. Mr. Kooi indicated that additional bus stops are a recommendation in the Short Range Transit Plan, but it would require additional infrastructure improvements to construct additional bus pull-outs. Mr. Kooi is applying for grants to provide funding for these improvements. Finally he states that dropping off riders in parking lots is hazardous to the riders and to the other vehicles.

Mr. Kooi stated that bus shelters and bus stops are being constructed adjacent to and in conjunction with new development so that the land and infrastructure are acquired. This allows the transit system to meet the needs of the growing community.

The Commission asked if the routes would be expanded further south. Mr. Kooi stated that the Short Range Transit Plan recommended a flex route plan, which would allow the bus to deviate from a fixed route and provide service to alternative flex zone or destination such as areas south of town. This is something that would be phased into the system and require additional funding.

The Commission asked about increasing paratransit service to Saturday. Mr. Kooi stated that in general ridership on Saturday is low, but that Vista Transit will be making changes to the Saturday service so that it better serves the community, which could include a paratransit component.

The Commission asked about using Vista Transit to transport individuals to special events throughout the community. Mr. Kooi stated that because Vista Transit is funded by federal grants, the transit system cannot compete with the private sector for charter services.

3. Sierra VistAbility Day 2015.

The Commission discussed the date and location of Sierra VistAbility Day 2015. The Commission agreed that Sierra VistAbility Day should continue to be located in the Mall. Mr. Pregler indicated that there are conflicts with most Saturday's in October but he would research all events in October and report back to the Commission. The Commission tentatively indicated that October 3 would be the best Saturday to have the event.

4. Strategic Leadership Plan Goals.

Mr. Pregler provided the Commission's Strategic Plan recommendation letter to Councilmember Ash whom will include the recommendations in discussions at the City Council Strategic Plan retreat.

5 CoDI presentation to City Council

Mr. Pregler provided a draft powerpoint presentation of the Commission's Annual Update to City Council. The presentation will discuss Vista Transit and the paratransit services available and also the need for infrastructure improvements in the community. The presentation is scheduled for Monday, April 15 at 4:00 pm.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS, COMMISSION REQUESTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS

Councilmember Ash stated the following:

The Cochise County Stand down will be August 23rd.

She wanted to ride the bus to familiarize herself with the routes and stops in the City and asked if any members of CoDI would like to accommodate her.

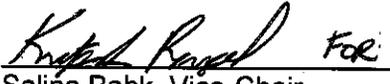
She emphasized that the strategic objectives benefit the entire community by increasing the quality of life and promoting economic development.

STAFF COMMENTS

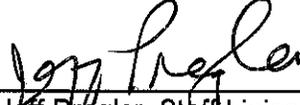
Mr. Pregler stated that the Health, Wealth, and Lifestyle Fair is scheduled for Saturday, March 7, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Mall at Sierra Vista. The Commission requested a booth at the event. Mr. Pregler will reserve a booth with the Chamber of Commerce. The Commission scheduled booth coverage.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:00 pm.



Salina Bahk, Vice-Chair



Jeff Pregler, Staff Liaison