

SIERRA VISTA COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES  
JULY 8, 2015  
REGULAR MEETING  
CITY MANAGER CONFERENCE ROOM  
MEETING SUMMARY

Ms. Gannon 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: Virginia Gannon, Chair  
Salina Bahk, Vice-Chair  
Marshall Harper  
Summer Morefield  
Kristopher Rangel  
Tom Reardon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Harry Walther

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jessica Donnelly  
Amy Carter

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ABSENT: Audrey Peterson-Hosto  
Carla Boyd

STAFF LIAISON: Jeff Pregler

COUNCIL LIAISON: Councilmember Alesia Ash

OTHERS PRESENT: Simone McFarland-City of Sierra Vista Economic Development  
Manager  
Luis Ruiz-Premiere Alliance  
Gail Houston-Commission on Cultural Diversity

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

Mr. Harper motioned to accept the agenda. Mr. Rangel seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous to accept (5-0). Ms. Morefield arrived after vote

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

1. Mr. Rangel motioned to accept the minutes for the June 19, 2015 meeting. Mr. Harper seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous to accept (4-0). Ms. Morefield arrived after the vote.

## **PUBLIC INTRODUCTION**

Mr. Ruiz introduced himself as working for Premiere Alliance

Ms. Houston introduced herself as the CoDI liaison from the Cultural Diversity Commission.

## **UPDATES FROM OTHER CITY COMMISSIONS**

Mr. Rangel gave an update on the Cultural Diversity Commission. He stated that the Commission is working on a Cultural Diversity Fair. Suggested that the Commissions go the City Council meet and greets. Ms. Houston stated that the Commission is partnering with the Fort Huachuca Equal Opportunity Office in coordinating future events.

Ms. Carter gave an update on the Environmental Affairs Commission and stated that they are working on educating the community about the benefits of recycling and solar power, and promoting community cleanups.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2. Presentation from Simone McFarland-City of Sierra Vista Economic Development Manager.**

Ms. McFarland presented the goals and strategies of the Economic Development Division.

The Commission discussed posting the Sierra VistAbility Business Award winners and disability friendly business sticker recipients on the Economic Development website to help promote local businesses. In addition, the Commission recommended posting educational information on ADA issues on the website.

### **3. Discussion on criteria for a Disability Friendly Business sticker.**

The Commission discussed the criteria for awarding the sticker to businesses. Some of the criteria discussed includes, employment, accessibility, assistance, mentoring, attending educational workshops and training, being a previous Business Award winner, an overall welcoming friendly environment to disabled individuals, and generally support the goals of the Commission. Further, the business should consider both building and product accessibility. It was emphasized that verification and evaluation of the nominated business by the Commission to ensure the criteria are met, is a necessary step in the process.

### **4. Sierra VistAbility Day 2015**

Mr. Pregler indicated that SSVEC donated \$800 to Sierra VistAbility Day. Further, there are some additional funds available in the proposed draft City budget. The total expense from last year's event was approximately \$2,600. Calculating the donation, City funds, and registration fees, there will once again be \$2,600 to spend on the event. Mr. Pregler contacted Jessica Cox to be a speaker at Sierra VistAbility Day.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Ruiz from Premiere Alliance discussed Sheltered Workshops (work centers authorized to exclusively hire individuals with disabilities at a discounted wage), and some of the Federal and State changes affecting these workshops. He invited the Commission to educate themselves on the issue and have further discussion. This discussion will be brought up a future meeting.

**FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS, COMMISSION REQUESTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Rangel stated that he went to the NAMI board meeting. An individual at the event indicated that the bathrooms at the new hospital were not ADA compliant. Mr. Pregler will research and provide information to the Commission at their next meeting.

**CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS**

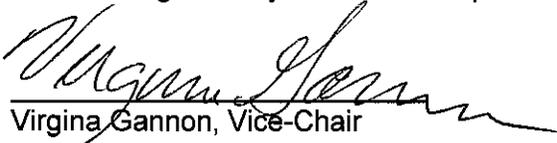
Councilmember Ash stated that the City Council will be voting on the final budget on July 31.

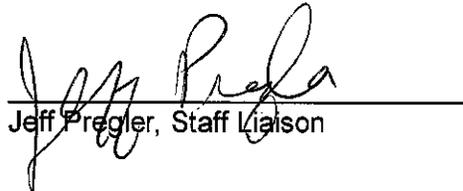
**STAFF COMMENTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

  
Virginia Gannon, Vice-Chair

  
Jeff Pregler, Staff Liaison

