Lewiston Disability Advisory Commission
MEETING MINUTES
August 08, 2024 - 12:00 PM
Lewiston City Hall – Back Conference Room – 1134 F Street
Lewiston, Idaho 83501

Members Attending: Chairman Constance Vance, Eric Peterson, Matthew Ruth, Mike Feeney, Mark Havens

Members Not Attending: Amy Borgan, Jessica Grainger

Non Members Attending: Nikki Province, Leah Burris, Hannah Liedkie

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Meeting called to order at 12:01

II. CITIZEN COMMENTS

A. None.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. None.

IV. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. ADA Transition Plan Annual Report

1. Mr. Peterson thanks Public Works Director Dustin Johnson for being so consistent with keeping the Transition Plan updated. Mr. Havens discusses the report's statistics on the disabled population. Some might think it's high, some might think it's low, but it probably depends on how you define "disability." He finds the way that information is broken down to be helpful. Mr. Peterson discusses the committee that was supposed to be established and guesses Dustin Johnson just does most of it. He also suggests that rather than have something listed as "to be implemented" it should be listed as "in progress" if something has been done. Mr. Peterson questions what "to be reviewed" means. He states it seems to imply nothing has been done, but would guess that's not accurate, so better language could probably be used. He adds that he likes the fact that it's short and sweet. Mr. Peterson then discusses ADA Complaints and uses an issue up near Bryden Ave as an example, and if the complaint process is working. This is a weakness, but otherwise the report is great. Mr. Ruth asks about the grievance procedure and if complaints are not addressed. Mr. Peterson clarifies that the complaint process is meant to provide an avenue for someone with an issue to report it to someone with authority to work out a resolution that works for everyone. Ms. Province clarifies that the grievance procedure is for individuals that believe they have been discriminated against. She also states there are complaints that come to her as ADA Coordinator, such as sidewalk issues, and then she

can help facilitate those complaints to the department that can resolve the issue. Mr. Peterson discusses the responsibilities of DAC. Mr. Havens asks Ms. Province about the procedure for updating and approving the Transition Plan's Annual Report. He then asks how complaints through the City's new CivicOptimize system could be included in this report or at least communicated back to Ms. Province as ADA Coordinator. For example, if the Library or another department expands services related to ADA, how could that be included in this report? He adds if the City is going to do a report, all departments should contribute what they have done and be proud of what progress they have made. Ms. Province states there has been discussions about bringing the Annual Report to a Leadership meeting so all department directors can provide input. Councilor Liedkie states she appreciates this conversation and the City would be setting a precedent by pushing these issues as most organizations are not addressing them. She adds that Council is in support of the Transition Plan. Mr. Peterson states he supports the idea of City Leadership reviewing the Annual Reports. Ms. Province states Leadership meets every Monday and will add it to the next meeting's agenda. Chairman Vance asks what needs to be done to the report for DAC to approve it. Ms. Province and Mr. Peterson agree that Public Works is just looking for suggestions and ideas.

B. Meeting Minutes - Approval of July 11, 2024 meeting minutes
    1. Mr. Peterson states the minutes imply the CivicOptimize system is just for ADA, and it's not. Ms. Provine states most of the discussion was related to ADA but staff understand that is not its only purpose.
    2. Mr. Havens states there is a typo in the discussion of Burt Lipp's pool and "pole" should be "poll."
    3. Mr. Havens motions to approve the minutes with an adjustment for the spelling error. Mr. Ruth seconds the motion. The minutes are approved.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. Mr. Peterson states he would like to get an ongoing simple report of the progress of CiticOptimize at each meeting. The report can be via email, it does not have to be a presentation.

VI. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

A. Mr. Havens states DAC has not been hugely successful in getting Department Directors to attend meetings, which is fine, but at his work, Interlink, they have been making a lot of lists of agencies they work with, and maybe DAC should hear from them. The Disability Action Center is a big one, Idaho Commission for the Blind, Opportunities Unlimited, etc. There are a number of non-profit entities but even more for-profit organizations, such as NORCO. There should be plenty of resources to draw from and organizations that could be invited to a meeting. It would be nice to have the old email list for agendas be brought back and reviewed. Mr. Peterson asks if that is something Ms. Province could do. She states yes, the agenda email list could be revised to include additional individuals. Mr. Havens states there is an interagency council that has a very extensive email list and many groups use it as a distribution list.

VII. STAFF LIAISON COMMENTS

A. None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Meeting adjourned at 1:01pm.

The City of Lewiston is committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, and activities and encourages qualified persons with disabilities to participate. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided at this meeting, please contact Nikki Province at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting at 208-746-3671, ext. 6211 or nprovince@cityoflewiston.org.