Lewiston Disability Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes
December 12, 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, Jessica Grainger, Mike Feeney, Mark Havens
Members Not Attending: Amy Brogan
Non-Members Attending: Dustin Johnson, Nikki Province, Leah Burris

A. CALL TO ORDER

a. Meeting called to order at 12:05pm

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS

a. None.

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. **ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT CODE UPDATES**

i. Public Works Director Dustin Johnson presents on the Engineering Development Code Updates. The department is trying to streamline the process of development as the process is currently not an easy or smooth process to navigate. He states he believes the City can improve transparency of codes and provide for some flexibility, while still following state and federal requirements. There are currently two guiding documents. The first is the ADA Transition Plan, which identifies priority upgrades and projects related to the ADA. The second is Lewiston Municipal Code, which identifies things like public right of way. Director Johnson then discusses at what point buildings have to be updated with frontage improvements, exceptions to making improvements, and current challenges. Exceptions include "Fees in Lieu Of," also known as FILO Fees. Director Johnson next shares some examples of places in Lewiston that do not have sidewalks but putting in a sidewalk is unlikely due to various reasons so an exemption, postponement, or something similar would need to be provided. Requirements for certain properties to put in sidewalks if they make improvements, has prevented improvements from happening. Director Johnson will provide the draft code amendments for DAC to review. Mr. Havens states a special committee was created a few years ago to address some of this and a formula was created, but the City Council never adopted it and all of that work ended up not going anywhere. Director Johnson states he remembers seeing it when he started at the City. Mr. Havens states he won't bring it up again if Director Johnson feels they are moving in a positive direction, but it would be nice to know why the City Council did not adopt what was recommended to them by the special committee. Director Johnson states he will try to find the recommendation but explains how he has been working with Community

Development on building improvements. Mr. Peterson asks if Fees in Lieu Of are assigned to specific projects based on the location of the property the fee is paid for. Director Johnson states the language that requires where the Fee is used is vague and can expire. The Public Works Department is coordinating with the Public Works Advisory Commission, Disability Advisory Commission, and Legal Department to make code amendments to then present to the City Council. Other development code updates are also in the works, such as subdevelopment codes. Director Johnson states he plans to come back to DAC in a few months with updates.

b. <u>REVIEW AND DISCUSS LEWISTON CITY CODE CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE V, SECTION 2-49(h) DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION POWERS AND DUTIES</u>

i. Mr. Peterson motions to move this item to a future agenda due to lack of time. Mr. Ruth seconds the motion and the motion is approved.

c. <u>OPTIMIZE PUBLIC REPORTING SYSTEM UPDATE</u>

i. Ms. Province provides an update on the Optimize reporting tool. Ms. Province states she reviewed the Washington, D.C. reporting tool and then reported what she found to the Information Systems & Security (ISS) Department. The ISS Department currently has several projects they are working on but plan to make more progress on the reporting tool in January, including the workflow of what departments would receive what types of complaints. Mr. Peterson states this also lends to accountability, as whichever department receives the complaint, will have to respond, and it will be easy to identify if a staff member is not following through.

D. <u>ACTIVE AGENDA</u>

a. <u>2025 DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION GOALS</u>

i. Chairman Vance motions to move this item to next month's agenda due to lack of time. Mr. Peterson seconds the motion and the motion is approved.

b. <u>LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR GRANT</u>

i. Chairman Vance states the City's Grant Manager Melinda Rose has requested a letter of support from DAC for the RAISE Discretionary Grant Program application for completing the Bryden Avenue construction project. Mr. Peterson states Bryden Avenue is a very important arterial with no sidewalks and agrees with everything listed in the letter of support. The group discusses how dangerous Bryden Avenue is without sidewalks. Mr. Peterson motions to approve the letter and sign it in support. Mr. Feeney seconds the motion. All commission members vote in favor of approving the letter of support.

c. <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u> – Approval of the November 14, 2024 meeting minutes

i. Mr. Peterson motions to move approval of the November minutes to the next meeting. Ms. Grainger seconds the motion and the motion is approved.

E. <u>FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS</u>

a. Ms. Province states she coordinated with Grant Manager Melinda Rose to discuss CDBG funds for transportation use which she will place on the January agenda. Mr. Peterson states this is becoming a federal issue, not just local.

F. <u>COMMISSIONER COMMENTS</u>

- **a.** Mr. Peterson states he has worked with Public Works Director Dustin Johnson for several years and appreciates him and his department for trying to make these improvements and actually get things done.

G. <u>STAFF LIAISON COMMENTS</u>

- **a.** None.

H. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

- **a.** Meeting adjourned at 12:58pm.