



**Lewiston Disability Advisory Commission**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 14, 2023 - 12:00 PM**  
**Lewiston City Hall – Back Conference Room – 1134 F Street**  
**Lewiston, Idaho 83501**

Members Attending: Constance Vance, Eric Peterson, Matt Ruth, Jessica Grainger, Amy Brogan, Mark Havens  
Members Not Excused: Mike Feeney  
Non-Members Attending: Katie Hollingshead, Nikki Province, Leah Burris

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- a Meeting called to order at 12:02pm

**II. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- a None.

**III. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. **ENVISION LEWISTON 2044:** Presentation by Assistant City Planner Katie Hollingshead on phase 2 of the Comprehensive Plan.
  - a. Ms. Hollingshead explains the City is updating the Comprehensive Plan which is used for long range planning. The plan focuses on what the vision for Lewiston is by 2044. Ms. Hollingshead provides copies of a paper survey and information cards for the members to share. Community Development has been reaching out to the community trying to get feedback. Ms. Hollingshead goes through the survey with the Commission. Commissioner Peterson states he will not complete the survey because the questions are biased. Ms. Hollingshead and Commissioner Havens explain how the questions were developed and how they were impacted by phase 1 of the survey. Ms. Hollingshead states she will return in a few months once some of the Plan has been completed. Commissioner Havens represents DAC on the steering committee for the Comprehensive Plan. The City is required to have a health and wellness component to the plan and Commissioner Havens states he discussed the possibility of a neighborhood where resources were accessible without a vehicle. He states one could even envision bike paths on Normal Hill or adjusting code to allow for businesses within residential areas.

**IV. ACTIVE AGENDA**

**A. DAC SUPPORT FOR THE IDAHO MEDICAID PROGRAM**

- a. Chairman Vance discusses the lack of support in Idaho for direct support providers. Providers cannot provide pay to maintain staff. Chairman Vance discusses DAC submitted a letter to City Council encouraging them to write a letter to Governor Brad Little to support the Idaho Medicaid Program. Commissioner Havens asks how Medicaid

reimbursements could be impacted if the national minimum wage is increased. Chairman Vance states at Opportunities Unlimited, Inc., wages are based on reimbursements, not minimum wage. Commissioner Ruth states he is not sure if it would have an impact. Commissioner Peterson states the State wants to do many things but meets resistance so thinks the letter would be good but instead send it to legislatures rather than the Governor. Commissioner Havens states he agrees. Commissioner Vance states she knows this is not just an issue in Lewiston, it's an issue everywhere. Commissioner Brogan and Commissioner Ruth state they are aware addressing this is in the State's strategic plan. The group discusses family members as caregivers. Commissioner Ruth states he thinks the bigger problem our area is facing is our aging population. Commissioner Ruth states he would be willing to assist Chairman Vance in drafting a letter. Commissioner Havens states he would be willing to help provide data for the letter.

**B. MEETING MINUTES**

- a. Commissioner Peterson states he would prefer minutes reflect if absent commissioners are excused or not excused. The group agrees to do this moving forward.
- b. Commissioner Ruth motions to approve the minutes from August 10, 2023 and Commissioner Peterson seconds the motion. All members vote to approve the minutes.

**V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**VI. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**VII. STAFF LIASON COMMENTS**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

- a Meeting adjourned at 1:05pm