

Disabilities Advisory Commission Minutes
February 10, 2014

Present: Vern Richardson, John Suess, John Teumer, Zach Wood, Diane Hinrichs, Chris Kanowitz, Chauncey Taylor, B.J. Michels, Larry Abston, Bettie Greenberg, and Dave McDanal

Absent: Leona Watson

Meeting Called to Order: 6:00 p.m.

Minutes: Diane moved to approve the minutes; Larry seconded the motion. Motion approved.

LIAISON REPORTS

Council Report: Chauncey said that the groundbreaking for Artspace (the old Feed & Grain) is Friday, February 14. He also reported that the Loveland Community Health Center opened at 302 SE Third Street. Stepping Stones, an adult day care center, is also at the facility. Chauncey talked about that the Centerra Metro District wants to amend (the 6th amendment) their taxing authority. They are looking at an additional road/entrance.

Chauncey discussed the book "For the Love of Cities", which looks at communities throughout the country, what makes people love their city, and what it takes to make a city livable. Chauncey said he would e-mail the book to DAC members and encouraged people to read it.

DRS: Dave read statistics from Alison Hade, Human Services, on Loveland's homeless count. He said that DRS has a wait list for housing of about 50 people. In 2013, DRS received only three Section-8 housing vouchers. In the past, DRS has received 12-15 vouchers. The decrease in available vouchers is largely due to the federal government's sequestration. Dave mentioned that 60 Minutes did a segment on an experiment by Nashville and Salt Lake City to give homeless people housing. So far, the experiment seems to be cost-effective. For instance, hospital emergency services have decreased. There are questions on long-term effects of this policy, such as will it be an incentive for people to become homeless. Discussion ensued about Loveland's Homeless Shelter and how it operates.

Staff Liaison: Bettie reported that Dave King, DRS, plans on attending DAC's March meeting to discuss the 2014 People First Celebration being planned. Bettie also discussed that the City is looking for volunteers to provide input to the City's Priority Based Budget system. Citizen input on what services are valued will help the City allocate funds. Vern and Chris volunteered to attend the budgeting session on behalf of DAC.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Accessibility Report: John S. said nothing is happening so far. Bettie has been forwarding information to him and Larry, but the applications are too early in the process to act on. Discussion ensued that the ADA does not apply to multi-family housing built pre-ADA. John and Larry said that they would be glad to help the LHA with ADA compliance, if needed.

Transportation: John T. said that all the money from the last grant (approximately \$45,000) was not used, so additional applications are being taken. If anyone has ideas on how to use the money, talk to the NFRMPO. Bettie relayed the information that she learned about snow removal; businesses and residents

are responsible for removing snow from their sidewalks, including curb cuts. For downtown, complaints can be made to the City's Code Enforcement Officers. Complaints about residential sidewalks go through the Police Department's non-emergency number.

OTHER BUSINESS

Vern will call Leona Watson to see why she hasn't been attending.

Zach is doing a book signing at Barnes & Noble from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is being held at the First United Methodist Church, 533 N. Grant Street in Loveland, Monday – Thursday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

The Cystic Fibrosis Action is being held this weekend at the Independence Gallery on Fourth Street.

Adjournment: Zach moved to adjourn; Larry seconded the motion. Motion approved.
Adjourned: 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bettie Greenberg, Secretary