Mayor’s Committee for People with Disabilities
Minutes
Wednesday, August 19, 2020
Members in Attendance by Video Conference: Pat Jones, Steve Massopust, Patrick Czerny,
Methina Brave Heart, Heather Hoeye, Ara Baumstarck, Catherine Greseth, Leah Nixon, Katie
Peterson, Melanie Barclay, Sammy Jo Kenzy.
Public in Attendance: Joseph Luciano

Meeting was Called to Order: 3:34PM

1. Presentation from Nick Stroot, ADA Coordinator and Community Resources Director.
Nick indicated that he had presented to this committee two years ago and was here again to
spell out his role as the ADA coordinator and to see if there was any collaboration that could be
done with the committee and his office. He indicated that he was also on the board for the
Work Diversity Network and has worked closely with Catherine Greseth. Nick said that he was
familiar with the struggle that some people with disabilities have and wanted to clarify that his
only responsibility was to provide ADA guidance for city buildings and personnel and not Rapid
City businesses. As far as sidewalks and ramps are concerned those questions are passed on to
building services.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes
Sammi made a motion to approve the previous minutes as written and Patrick seconded the
motion.

3. The chairperson asked the group to introduce themselves and mention why they
wanted to be on the Mayor’s Committee. The current members introduce themselves first and
then the two new members Katie Peterson along with Leah Nixon introduced themselves. Katie
works for Communication Services for the Deaf providing services to that community. Leah was
involved in a construction accident and now owns her own business selling stationary cards.
Steve introduced Joseph Luciano who was also in attendance.

4. Old Business
   a. Steve asked the liaison if he had anything new information to offer the committee.
      Pat Jones indicated that he did not at this time.
   b. Steve indicated that Melanie was the treasurer and that we annually receive $1000
      for committee activities.
   c. Steve described the Community Outreach, the Media Subcommittee and the Bylaws
      Subcommittee. He also spoke about how we came about to the current number of
      members on the committee.
   d. The Committee discussed the recently approved Mission Statement and Sammi made
      a motion to put those out on our website. Ara seconded that motion. Pat Jones said that
      he would look into getting that posted for us.

5. Steve read off a list of projects that were submitted to him for consideration. The
committee discussed some of our projects that we have done in the past and intend to do going
forward. The ADA picnic was put on hold this year due to Covid 19. Recognition awards were
given to previous organizations like the Make-A-Wish foundation and the Rapid City Swim
Center. Sammi has been heavily involved with the parking committee. She has spoken with Darrell Schumacher who indicated that he is willing to put together some PSA’s for local radio stations and possibly Midcontinent Communications regarding educating the public on handicap parking. Understanding the need for handicap vans to have the wider space is a particular issue. Leah felt that parking in the middle of a city block would be helpful but would require additional cutouts. We discussed connecting again with Kathy Bock along with the parking committee. A couple of the members felt that accessible crossing on Rushmore Road could be improved. It was suggested Dial-a-Ride could be brought in for another presentation. Sammi would like to support Ski for Light, Summer Light and Meet the Need. Ara mentioned that the cost for a nonprofit to participate as a member of the Black Hills Badlands Association and to be included in the visitors guide was $500 a year. The Black Hills and Badlands Association also has a listing of accessible tourism sites with their membership but a spiral-bound accessibility guide might be nice. Just another way that people may be able to find accessibility resource. The 211 helpline was mentioned. Leah said that it would be nice to have a list of accessible medical facilities.

For the meantime the committee will continue to meet virtually rather than in person.

6. Adjournment:
Patrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ara seconded that motion. Meeting was adjourned at 4:48 PM