



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

MINUTES

Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 1:00 P.M.

Department on Disability

Zoom Video Conference

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Myrna Cabanban

David Wolf

Iran Hopkins

Dr. Robert Bitonte

Richard Rothenberg

Alisa Schlesinger

Betty Wilson

Candace Cable

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Robert Williams

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

Chris Lee, City Attorney III, City Attorney's Office

GUESTS:

Dr. Matthew Wright, PhD, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Director, Neurocognitive Equipotentiality, Recovery & Development (NERD) Research Program at LA BioMed

ITEM NO. (1): FINDINGS TO CONTINUE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS PURSUANT TO AB 361

Determination in accordance with AB 361 Section 3(e)(3) that, while the state of emergency due to the Covid-19 pandemic, as originally proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020, remains active and/or state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, this commission has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and/or state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

Action Taken: The Commission on Disability approved the teleconference meetings pursuant to AB361.

ITEM NO. (2): APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the October 2021 meeting and vote to approve them.

Action Taken: The Commission approved the minutes for October 13, 2021.

ITEM NO. (3): PUBLIC COMMENT

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (4): LONG TERM MEDICAL IMPACTS FROM COVID-19 - UPDATE

Dr. Matthew Wright, PhD, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Director, Neurocognitive

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Equipotentiality, Recovery & Development (NERD) Research Program at LA BioMed Dr. Wright will present on the Neuropsychology of COVID-19, as it pertains to persons already living with a disability, persons who may now be living with a disability due to Covid, and their loved ones, care givers, and family.

- I. Dr. William W. Stringer, MD, FACP, FCCP Professor of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA present on the Neuropsychology of COVID-19, as it pertains to persons already living with a disability, persons who may now be living with a disability due to Covid, and their loved ones, care givers, and family. During the acute phase of Covid infection, particularly for those that are more severe, patients might suffer from encephalopathy, which can lead to confusion or agitation and delirium, or in the worst cases, coma and can be caused by a number of different factors ranging from less oxygen to the brain and altered metabolism. There is some residual changes in brain metabolism and cognition that seem to linger in those folks that have had the significant hypometabolic states. Covid can also have an impact on the brain and can enter by the olfactory route, interact with ACE-2 receptors like the capillary and endothelium, and from cytokine storms that enter the blood brain barrier and create damage and neuroinflammation. For long Covid syndrome (LCS), 1/3 or more of people report having lingering symptoms at least 3 months or more beyond infection. Preliminary data suggests LCS symptoms are more common in females, and more acute severe symptoms are more common in males. Severe acute COVID 19 symptoms do not appear to be necessary for long term COVID symptoms. There have been many studies that have been looking into LCS, but most of the LCS has been reported to include but is not limited to brain fog, changes in mood, chronic fatigue, and reduced activities of daily living. Dr. William W. Stringer says that the research and studies on Covid are evolving rapidly.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (5): INQUIRY - TNC ACCESS FOR ALL

Guest speakers provided the Commission with an update on the Commission on Disability's ongoing Transportation Network Companies project.

- I. The Commission on Disability will discuss and vote on the motion to proceed with questions and a request for further information regarding "SB-1376 Transportation Network Companies: Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities. (2017-2018)" from the California Public Utilities Commission and other relevant bodies at the regional level.

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Commissioner Bitonte is determine to look into whether they were living up to their legal obligations to provide access for wheelchair ambulators throughout our City. When the COD first were told about the taxation and the money being collected to the public utilities commission, they asked where could they apply for the money available for those that advocated for wheelchair accessibility? The COD found they could apply for the money, but the time to access the funds had gone by. The COD still has some questions for the carriers and is recommending for further information regarding the SB-1376 Transportation Network Companies.

Action Taken: The Commission on Disability approves to adopt the questions and a request for further information regarding SB-1376 Transportation Network Companies.

ITEM NO. (6): EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ongoing update on items relating to Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, and/or other relevant issues. Presentation was not given because of budget meetings.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (7): NEW BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Items for the next regular meeting's agenda and announcements from Commissioners, DOD staff, and guests, as well as follow-up items from this or previous commission meetings to be presented at the next meeting. Commission on Disability to continue to have their meeting in December to cover topics and presentations and help guild the COD.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (8): ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 2:02 P.M.