



## **COMMISSION ON DISABILITY**

### **MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 9, 2022, 1:00 P.M.

Department on Disability

Zoom Video Conference

#### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Myrna Cabanban

David Wolf

Iran Hopkins

Richard Rothenberg

Alisa Schlesinger

Candace Cable

Betty Wilson

#### **COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:**

Dr. Robert Bitonte

Robert Williams

#### **DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:**

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability

Ashley Rodriguez, Public Information Officer, Department on Disability

Jaime Pacheco Orozco, Assistant Executive Director, Department on Disability

**OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:**

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

**GUESTS:**

**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 February 2022 and the Commission on Disability voted to approve them.

Action Taken: The Commission approved the minutes for February 9, 2022.

**ITEM NO. (3): PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

**ITEM NO. (4): PAYPAN V. LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT (LACCD).**

Guest speakers provided the Commission on Disability with an update on the Papan V. Community College District (LACCD) on the successful campaign to end LACCD's intentions to pursue a judicial review by the US Supreme Court in the Payan vs LACCD litigation.

- I. Presentation is by Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Jaime Pacheco Orozco, Assistant Executive Director, Ashley Rodriguez, Public Information Officer, Department on Disability, City of Los Angeles. Since the last meeting, LACCD board reversed their decision to file with the United States Supreme Court that could have eviscerated civil rights laws including Section 504 by a unanimous vote by the LACCD board on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. This victory couldn't happen without the Department on Disability and the community partners that helped put pressure on the board of trustees. DOD worked with Disability Rights California and the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund to start an online petition that was viewed 22,262 times and had over 10,000 submissions by promoting on webinars and shared on social media. DOD also worked with government offices and politicians to gain support and bring awareness. L.A. City Council adopted a resolution supporting the civil rights of people with disabilities that was presented by Council Member Lee and Seconded by Council President Martinez. DOD also sent a call to action for our community asking people to attend the LACCD board meeting in person, submit a written public comment, or speak virtually. DOD also worked with the L.A. Times to publish an article and was published the day of the meeting with the LACCD board. The LACCD is currently going through mediation process to come to a resolution.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only

**ITEM NO. (5): SELF EVALUATION AND TRANSITION PLAN (SE/TP)**

Guest speakers provided the Commission on Disability will update on the status of the citywide Self Evaluation and Transition Plan and the plan for beginning development of a long-term transition plan to remove both physical and programmatic barriers facing people with disabilities.

- I. Presentation is by Geoffrey Straniere, ADA Compliance Officer,

Department on Disability. DOD is working to update the City's Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan. In Dec 2017, City Council passes motion for new Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan and is underway for all City departments. DOD will share outcomes of the City's Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan that evaluates of City's policy, services, programs, and factifies. DOD will also create a transition plan to describe the valuation of architectural barriers at City facilities and schedules for remediation. DOD will host community meetings for opportunity for public comment and consideration about the SE/SP. DOD will also provide barrier removal considerations for implementation and should consider and address any and all barriers at City departments. DOD has also assigned Certified Access Specialist contactors to complete the assessment of the physical space and works with administrators of that department to complete the assessment of their pograms to help them complete the entire SE/TP. DOD tracks the status of the SE/TP assessment by using a green check for complete, yellow dots to indicate in progress, and a red bar to indicated not started and track milestones within each department. DOD has a target date for completing the SE/SP is July 2023. DOD will set up another presentation in six months to update the COD on the status and completion of the SE/TP.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only

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

Ongoing update on items relating to Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, and/or other relevant issues. Presentation is by Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability and/or other department staff. DOD attended the Abilities Expo and partnered with the Department on Aging, Recreation and Parks, and community organizations in one shared space to have a lot of great information for community members over to the weekend. DOD plans to continue the partnership and recruit key partnership for this event. The Emergency Management Department will be hosting a formal exercise on March 17<sup>th</sup> to get City departments active and involved in their roles in the emergency operation center when there is a crisis or emergency. DOD staff two different seats that play important role within EMD. DOD will also participate in the larger emergency exercise at LAX in the month of April. ACO has been doing a lot of work with the Syringe Exchange Program and expanding services in the streets. They have and added backpack syringe and new providers for that program. DOD is also partnering with the Zoo Department's sensory plan in 2028 to expanding the department and changing the internal structure for the

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physical accessibility and programmatic accessibility. The Zoo Department just recently received a certification for sensory inclusion, ensuring for the intellectual disability community and other sensory disabilities have safe and comfortable spaces to navigate at the Zoo. DOD is also working on food inequities across City by joining a working group that included several regions organizations to address food insecurity for people with disabilities. The Mayor passes Executive Directive 28 that creates a cabinet that is designed to work with LA 28 for the Olympics and Paralympics.

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. Commissioner Wolf suggested search for any information on create a hybrid COD meeting for future meetings. Commissioner Schlesinger request to agenize SB 871 and SB 866 to see if the COD can weigh in on those bills. DOD is working on the TNC and seeing if they can present to the COD.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

## **ITEM NO. (8): ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 2:13 P.M.