



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

MINUTES

1:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 7, 2014

Los Angeles City Hall Board of Public Works

200 North Spring Street, Room 350, Los Angeles, California 90012

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Sam Overton
Theresa de Vera
David Wolf
Sandy Driver-Gordon
Louis Herrera
Terry Magady
Betty Wilson

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Michael Griggs (excused)

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director
Angela Kaufman, ADA Compliance Officer

COMMISSION STAFF:

Sheridan Keyser
Daisy Bonilla, Clerk Typist

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

Rushmore Cervantes, HCID

GUESTS:

* AUDIO TAPE(S) and CAPTIONING NOTES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

ITEM NO. (1): CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INTRODUCTIONS

DISPOSITION: ACTION TAKEN.

President of Commission, Sam Overton, called the regular meeting to order at 1:07 P.M. Roll call was conducted and a quorum of the commissioners was present.

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

DISPOSITION: ACTION TAKEN

Minutes were approved for COD meetings of April 2, 2014.

ITEM NO. (3): PUBLIC COMMENT

DISPOSITION: PUBLIC COMMENTARY RECEIVED – FOR ANNOUNCEMENT PURPOSES ONLY*

Patrick Seamans stated that Department on Disability has two sign language interpreting contracts that is restrictive of using interpreters is a violation of the Americans with Disability Act and should be taken under consideration.

Peter Getzoff stated that Access Services has mistakenly shown him as a no-show, even when they come by to pick him up in the vehicle, so he must work to correct this mistake. Mr. Getzoff has met a woman who is blind and a Korean language speaker, requesting the location of a center that addresses the concerns of people who are blind.

Phyllis Coto is with the Los Angeles County Client Coalition and announced its Third Annual Innovations and Recovery Conference scheduled for June 23rd, 2014 at the California Endowment of the Arts. Additionally, the Coalition meets every third Friday of the month at 550 S. Vermont Avenue, second floor, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Janet Neal reported that the County Commission on Disability will hold its Annual Access Awards Luncheon on October 20th. The commission meets the third Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m., 500 W. Temple Street, Room 350.

Sandra Clayton announced a meeting at the Clergy Academy for training on mental health on May 8th. Additionally, Los Angeles Senior Fraud Awareness Day will be held on May 15th to educate people about identity theft, elder financial abuse and other practices. Finally, the annual clergy conference will be held on May 29th at the Cathedral of our Lady
Daniel Garcia encouraged people to write letters to the Metro Board about the haphazard of railroad crossings and tracks for people in wheelchair, based on a recent incident involving his wife.

ITEM NO. (4): DISCUSS ON CITY'S DIRECTION ON NON-SECTION 8 HOUSING AND OTHER AFFORDABLE HOUSING. Presentation by Rushmore Cervantes, Housing and Community Investment Department.

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN. INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

Mr. Cervantes distinguished the Housing Authority from his department, the Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID). The Housing Authority addresses people with 35 percent of the area median income and below by using the HUD's Section 8 vouchers and 14 public housing projects.

However, HCID addresses affordable housing for family, seniors, veterans and others between 35 and 65 percent of the area median income. The City makes five percent and two percent of its units accessible with disabilities and hearing impairments, respectively. 1,200 units are financed each year with approximately eight (8) percent of those accessible or adaptable units.

HCID is reviewing its policies and procedures to ensure full compliance with disability law and is working with the County to create a dynamic database that informs HCID about the location and inventory of affordable, accessible housing.

In response to a question about the process for affordable housing, Mr. Cervantes stated that HCID is targeting its housing in low income areas where there is additional investment from the City and County, such as that of Measure R, which supports transit hubs that has housing, transportation and retail.

ITEM NO. (5): UPDATE ON MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING (MOUs) WITH COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND DISABILITY ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS. Report from DOD's Rick Pope and Adriana Miranda. Discussion by COD.

DISPOSITION: DISCUSSION*

Ms. Miranda and Mr. Pope indicated that the Department sent e-mails and letters to 300 community groups inviting them to enter into MOUs to establish partnerships about mass notification for emergencies and disasters, and how partnerships would benefit the populations they represent.

ADA Compliance Officer, Angela Kaufman, responded to a number of questions from the commission. Ms. Kaufman explained how first responders work with representatives from the Department on Disability while in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). In the EOC the Department fills one seat on mass care involving shelters and food, and another seat for

“disability and functional needs” that sits with the planning section of the EOC that coordinates responses during emergencies and disasters. Ms. Kaufman also responded that LAUSD sits beside DOD in the EOC, so that school incidents are addressed during emergencies.

Nevertheless, the Department must explore how private schools will be included in mass notifications about emergencies, and DOD should provide a progress report in four months about inspecting LAUSD schools using the DOJ checklist before those schools open in the fall.

Ruthlee Goldkorn received confirmation that the invitation to enter into MOUs had been sent to 300 community groups.

ITEM NO. (6): UPDATE ON FUNDING FOR DOD’S AIDS COORDINATOR’S OFFICE AND COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION CENTER (CIC). Presentation by the Gina Blades, City’s AIDS Coordinator Office.

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

Ms. Blades reported that the City recommended funding AIDS Prevention at 90 percent of last year’s amount, and that a new management analyst I is scheduled for hiring, but must await one final approval process.

ITEM NO. (7): REPORT ON APRIL 23RD MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ACCESS (CCDA) HELD IN LOS ANGELES. Presentation by Commissioner Wilson.

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

Commissioner Wilson reported that CCDA proposes creating three regional congresses located in northern, central and southern California. The state legislators are invited to participate in the congresses during hearings. The CCDA conducted a statewide survey with 10 priorities and proposes creating a general accessibility guide.

In response to Commissioner Driver-Gordon, Stephen Simon indicated that the CCDA was created to improve accessibility by removing barriers that therefore lacks a mandate to address special education.

ITEM NO. (8): EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Discussion of recent department activities, and other relevant issues. Presentation by Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, DOD.

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

Mr. Simon provided an update on the department's budget proposal. There are recommendations to increase sign language interpreting and CART budget by \$35,000 and add \$48,000 to address videophones in LAPD.

Mr. Simon also reported on the department's efforts to provide COMPSTAT data to the Mayor's Office, which are performance benchmarks for the Department. The data includes the number of sign language and captioning request, syringes removed, employees trained, among a few of the areas reported on. Mr. Simon also reported that the department has targeted to create approximately 30 standard operating procedures.

ITEM NO. (9): PUBLIC COMMENT.

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

Comments taken and noted.

ITEM NO. (10): NEW BUSINESS SUGGESTED FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

No new business proposed.

ITEM NO. (11): ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

No announcements.

ITEM NO. (12): ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 3:12 P.M.

Sam Overton, President DATE
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

Daisy Bonilla, Clerk Typist DATE
DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY