**Sacramento County Disability Advisory Commission (DAC)**

**Meeting Minutes for February 6, 2024**

**Members Present:** Randy Hicks, Chair; Gene Lozano, Vice Chair Isabel Arreola, Patty Gainer (virtually with approval), Troy Givans, Ex-Officio; Marc Laver, Hang Nguyen, Ex-Officio; Kathy Sachen, Angela Talent.

**Members Absent:**, Reggie Nelson, Rami Zakaria, Ex Officio

**Guests: Melissa Jacobs, Deputy Director, Senior and Adult Services; Joseph Wilson, Community Advocate (via Zoom); Jeff Tardaguila, Physical Access Subcommittee Member (via Zoom); Dustin Knott, DAC applicant; Ryan and Alonzo, American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters; Amy, ASL Student.**

**Staff: Cori Stillson, Cheryl Bennett,** Disability Compliance Office (DCO).

**Call to Order and Introductions**

The Chair called the meeting to order with a quorum present. Staff took roll call of members and guests introduced themselves.

**Approval of Members’ Requests to Participate via Zoom**

**It was moved and seconded (Lozano/Sachen) to approve Patty Gainer’s request for virtual attendance. Approved unanimously.**

**Approval of the Minutes**

**The January 2 meeting minutes were adopted with an amendment.**

**Public Comments**

**Jeff Tardaguila noted the barriers and sidewalk closures due to the area being blocked off for a movie set. There were few alternative paths of travel identified.**

**Joseph Wilson commented about the many barriers and challenges for people with disabilities navigating application processes for employment, Medi-Cal and other services.**

**Update: Accessibility in March 2024 Elections**

Hang Nguyen updated members about the Voting Centers and drop off facilities in place for the March 2024 Elections. She described the improvements made to the Voter Lookup Tool to make it more accessible and user friendly. They are still working out a few issues but would appreciate community feedback. She sent the link earlier this month but will re-send it to ensure everyone has an opportunity to provide feedback. Ms. Nguyen announced the Language Access Committee would convene on Thursday. Dustin Knott stated he wanted to attend and asked if there would be sign language interpreters present. Ms. Nguyen said she would do her best to make those arrangements and asked the DCO to assist. Lastly, she noted that signs had been created for the voting centers and drop off locations advertising a phone number to call for curbside service.

**Chair’s Report**

Randy Hicks The Chair and Vice Chair have been invited to meet with the four Deputy County Executives. The meeting originally scheduled for Friday February 2 has been rescheduled to Friday March 8 at 1:00 PM. We have been asked to prepare a summary of what has been accomplished since the County Executive Offices response to the DAC 2021-22 report, and what are outstanding concerns. The issues addressed in the DAC Letter to the Board regarding agenda items will also be considered.

The Executive Committee will meet next Tuesday February 13 at 3:00 PM at 700 H Street, 5th floor. Executive Committee members must attend in person. All members and the public are welcome and may attend virtually if preferred. The Agenda will consist of the quarterly member attendance report, items for the Agenda for the Chiefs of Staff briefing on February 22 at 2:00 PM, and consideration of a draft outline for the March 8 report back to the Deputy County Executives.

**Ex-Officio Reports**

The reports were deferred.

**Disability Compliance Office (DCO) Report**

Cori Stillson noted there had been no proposals submitted for reviewing the DCO and the deadline has been extended. Cheryl Bennett updated members on her activities in the Access and Functional Needs (AFN) role with the Office of Emergency Services. She also reported back on a recent meeting with the DCO, Airport staff and Sally Swanson and staff regarding the status of the ADA Self Evaluation and Transition Plan work. The draft report is nearing completion and copies will be provided to the DAC for review and input prior to the official public comment period. The draft will be shared in early March and the Airports and consultant team will attend the April DAC meeting as part of the public outreach process. Additional methods of outreach were discussed. Gene Lozano stated that the proposed outreach strategies were significantly less that what had been agreed to in the contract. He noted he had reached out to Chris Martin, Airport ADA Coordinator, to discuss. Cheryl Bennett reminded members of the Brown Act limitations on their participation in meetings remotely. Finally, she announced that the DAC would be getting its own County email address – SacCountyDAC@saccounty.gov.

**Programs and Services Access Subcommittee Report**

Angela Talent stated the Subcommittee is still developing the response to their letter to Behavioral Health Services. They will also review the Department of Rehabilitation’s Accessible Meeting guidelines.

**Human Services Coordinating Council Report (HSCC)**

Randy Hicks reported that the HSCC had an update from the Department of Homeless Services and Housing.

**Homeless Services and Housing Task Force Report**

The report was deferred.

**Physical Access Subcommittee Report**

Gene Lozano summarized the topics from the January meeting – Active Transportation projects, ongoing discussion regarding Class IV Bike Lanes and trapezoidal warning delineators, wayfinding features, and an update on Greenback Lane sidewalk improvements. Mr. Lozano also noted a concern he had received from a blind individual who uses a service dog. She experienced some difficulties with the service animal relieve area at Sacramento International Airport.

**Unfinished/New Business**

**There was no unfinished or new business.**

**Community Announcements**

**Members made announcements of interest to the disability community.**

**Proposed Topics for Upcoming Agenda**

**The Department of Technology will be invited to provide an update on their new Web Access team.**

**DAC Member Comments**

**There were no additional comments.**

**Adjournment**

**It was moved (Talent) and seconded (Arreola) to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously.**