

Sacramento County Disability Advisory Commission (DAC)

Meeting Minutes for February 1, 2022

Members Present:, Gene Lozano, Chair; Randy Hicks, Vice Chair; Bill Fallai, Patty Gainer, Carol Moss, Reggie Nelson, Kathy Sachen, Doug Sloan, Ex-Officio; Angela Talent, Gwen Wilson.

Members Absent: Jeff Gasaway, Ex-Officio; Mahavir “Kalli” Kallirai, Troy Givans, Ex-Officio; LaTasha Richardson.

Guests: Liz Gomez, Mike Nguy, Dept. of Health Services; Margie Donovan, Community Member; Patti Uplinger, Housing Advocate for People with Disabilities; Peter Mendoza, CA State Council on Developmental Disabilities; Brandy Tuzon-Boyd, Chair, City of Sacramento Disabilities Advisory Commission; Blanca Hurtado, Community Member; Jeffery Tardaguila, Physical Access Subcommittee member.

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 the Minutes

The meeting minutes for January 2022 were reviewed and approved as submitted, with one abstention.

Public Comments

Blanca Hurtado inquired about what policy or procedure is in place for members of the public who are unable to wear a mask due to a disability need to do business in County buildings where masks are required to enter. Staff responded that most public areas are still closed but noted that these situations would be addressed on a case by case basis as services begin to open.

Patti Uplinger described her work in providing transitional housing, shelter and other support for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Update: Accessibility in Covid-19 Testing and Vaccination Services

Liz Gomez and Mike Nguy presented a PowerPoint with updates on Covid-19 testing and vaccination services in Sacramento County. The access recommendations made by the DAC have been implemented and staff is trained on making accommodations as needed for people with disabilities. The impact of Covid-19 on various subsets of the disability community were discussed. Public Health is engaging with community partners such as Alta Regional and other service providers supporting people with disabilities to distribute test kits. Ms. Gomez clarified the information for people who need to request in-home vaccination services. Gene Lozano recommended Health Services consider providing more resources toward mobile in-home testing services, as many people are unable to administer the self-tests independently. Peter

Mendoza noted that contact information for people requesting reasonable accommodation should be more visible. Ms. Gomez and Mr. Nguy stated they will follow up with DCO staff regarding additional questions and concerns that came up in discussion.

Chair's Report

Gene Lozano referenced the draft letter that was included in this month's Agenda packet. The letter is addressed to Dr. Olivia Kasirye, Sacramento County Public Health Officer. It explains and describes the access barriers in the Covid-19 test kits recently distributed by the Federal government. The kits do not contain directions that are usable by people with print disabilities or other communication disabilities. The letter requests that the Sacramento County Division of Public Health explore with the California Department of Public Health and the Biden administration the feasibility for implementing a program of accessible options for all Americans who have print and/or communication disabilities when taking at-home rapid COVID-19 tests and implement the use of auxiliary aids to provide effective communication. All local legislators and many notable disability advocates are copied on the letter.

MOTION: It was moved (Hicks) and seconded (Sachen) to adopt the draft letter as written and forward to Dr. Kasirye. Approved, unanimously. DCO staff will assist with formatting and distribution.

Mr. Lozano also noted he had sent an inquiry through the DCO to TJ Chen, Chief of Planning and Design of Airports, in follow up to the January presentation. He will report back when he receives the response.

Ex-Officio Reports

Doug Sloan noted he is working on improving accessibility for the SacGreenTeam.com web page and welcomes any feedback once updates are complete.

Disability Compliance Office (DCO) Report

The DCO deferred their report.

Annual Report Task Force Report

Gene Lozano reported the Task Force continues to meet and develop report content. A review of the final draft will be on next month's DAC Agenda.

Programs and Services Access Subcommittee Report

This report was deferred due to time constraints.

Human Services Coordinating Council Report (HSCC)

This report was deferred due to time constraints.

Physical Access Subcommittee Report

This report was deferred in the interest of time.

Unfinished/New Business, Announcements

There was no Unfinished or New Business. Members made announcements regarding events of interest to the disability community.

Proposed Topics for Upcoming Agenda

In addition to reviewing and approving the draft Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors, the new Personnel Services Director, Dr. Sylvester Fadal, is expected to attend and briefly introduce himself.

DAC Member Comments

No DAC members wished to comment.

Adjournment

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