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

**Meeting Minutes for September 6, 2022**

**Members Present:**, Gene Lozano, Chair; Randy Hicks, Vice Chair; Bill Fallai, Patty Gainer, Jeff Gasaway, Ex-Officio; Carol Moss, Reggie Nelson, LaTasha Richardson, Kathy Sachen, Angela Talent.

**Members Absent:** Reggie Nelson, Courtney Bailey-Kanelos, Ex-Officio; Jeff Gasaway, Ex-Officio; Troy Givans, Ex-Officio.

**Guests: Hang Nguyen, Kenji Furukawa, Department of Voter Registration and Elections**; Jeffery Tardaguila, DAC 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.

**Resolution to Continue DAC Meetings Remotely**

**Gene Lozano reviewed the purpose of the Resolution required to continue holding DAC meetings remotely. The document is identical to last month’s with current dates. It was moved and seconded (Moss/Talent) to adopt the resolution. By roll call vote, the Resolution was adopted, unanimously.**

**Approval of the Minutes**

**The meeting minutes for August 2, 2022 were reviewed and adopted with one amendment.**

**Public Comments**

**Jeffery Tardaguila shared information from a webinar on justice and aging, and recent updates from CalAIMS and the CalCARES court system.**

**Update – Accessibility in June 2022 and Upcoming November Elections**

Hang Nguyen and Kenji Furukawa of the Department of Voter Registration and Elections (VRE) provided an overview of the past two elections. They specifically addressed a complaint made by a blind voter regarding the need for more poll worker training, which is ongoing. Improvements to the voter look up page have been implemented. VRE is considering purchasing JAWS screen reader software in order to better test documents and web pages for accessibility. Gene Lozano recommended ensuring staff is trained by a certified trainer. He also requested that the verbal descriptions of the maps be moved to the top so the screen reader does not have to go through the whole page to find the descriptions. He suggested looking at San Francisco’s Department of Public Works’ webpage as a model. Members and guests shared their personal experiences regarding accessibility challenges at the vote centers. Ms. Nguyen and Mr. Furukawa responded and will follow up to address these for future election.

**Chair’s Report**

Gene Lozano summarized the discussion at the Executive Committee meeting on August 25. They set the Agenda for the meeting with the Chiefs of Staff on September 8. The topics are an update on the progress with the annual report, including recent developments with the Airport, and concerns regarding the Disability Compliance Office’s new physical location and organizational placement, and its ability to implement the findings and recommendations in the ADA Self Evaluation Report.

**Ex-Officio Reports**

The Ex-Officio reports were deferred.

**Disability Compliance Office (DCO) Report**

Cori Stillson stated that in response to the DAC’s concerns, she and Jeffrey Lubenko from General Services performed a walk though inspection of the DCO’s new office and found no access barriers. The distance of the path of travel from the transit stop is still unknown. There is no update regarding the vacant Ex-Officio position.

**Programs and Services Access Subcommittee Report**

Carol Moss noted that the Subcommittee has completed its review of the Creating Accessible Documents guidelines. The report back from Behavioral Health has been rescheduled to October so September’s Agenda is to be determined.

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

Randy Hicks summarized the highlights of the August meeting. Some of the scheduled community listening sessions have been delayed due to CPAC meeting cancellations. They hope to complete all the listening sessions by the end of the year.

**Physical Access Subcommittee Report**

Gene Lozano recapped the report from General Services. The Morgan Alternative Center is being converted into a homeless shelter with services for seniors. The Women’s Empowerment Center received ADA interior improvements. The Southgate Library accessible path of travel is complete and interior improvements have begun.

**Unfinished/New Business**

**Unfinished Business – Questions Back to 211 Sacramento: The questions discussed at the previous meeting were submitted and their response is expected in time for review at the October meeting.**

**Unfinished Business – Questions Back to Safe Stay staff: The DAC requested clarification on coordination with ParaTransit and RTGo. The response will be considered at the October meeting.**

**New Business – New Homeless Encampment Ordinance: Members briefly reviewed the newly adopted ordinance and discussion ensued. It was noted that there are operational guidelines for Park Rangers under development. Gene Lozano requested that the DCO follow up to obtain those guidelines for review.**

**Community Announcements**

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

**Proposed Topics for Upcoming Agenda**

**The topic for the next Agenda will be an update from the Department of Technology and Public Information Office in response to the DAC Annual Report.**

**DAC Member Comments**

**Kathy Sachen announced that RT is providing free rides to anyone going to the Cooling Centers during the hot weather emergency.**

**Adjournment**

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