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

**Meeting Minutes for November 1, 2022**

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

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

**Guests: Jerry Gray, Corinna Zollars, Department of Technology (DTech); Kim Nava, Public Information Manager; Brandi Bluel, Isabel Arreola, Resources for Independent Living; Marc Laver, United Cerebral Palsy (UCP); Jeff Tardaguila, DAC Physical Access Subcommittee member; Rose Arteaga, Community 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. The Resolution was adopted by unanimous vote.**

**Approval of the Minutes**

**The meeting minutes for October 6, 2022 were reviewed and adopted with minor amendments.**

**Public Comments**

**No members of the public wished to comment.**

**Department of Technology (DTech) and Public Information Office Response to Recommendations in the DAC 2021-22 Annual Report**

Jerry Gray and Corinna Zollars responded to each of the questions and concerns stated in the 2021-22 DAC Annual Report regarding accessibility of web pages and other electronic communication. DTech has made a growth request to add staff who will be dedicated to accessibility concerns. DTech will seek out accessibility trainings and make them mandatory for relevant staff. They will soon begin updating to WCAG 2.1 AA standards, the current requirement. They will also begin to work with their procurement division to ensure that access needs and requirements are included in contracts and requests for proposals. Gene Lozano asked how many staff were certified in JAWS screen reading software. Mr. Gray responded currently none are certified. Mr. Lozano recommended having at least 1-2 staff certified. He also advised against using automated assessment tools due to limited reliability. Members asked questions and made additional suggestions and recommendations to enhance usability by people with disabilities.

**Questions for Dept. Personnel Services Remaining from Previous Meeting**

Cori Stillson briefly addressed the remaining questions regarding Disability Compliance Office roles and activities. Ms. Stillson noted the Employee Reasonable Accommodation process is being administered by the Medical/Leaves team, with the DCO supporting and consulting on more complex matters. She stated historically the DCO has been primarily focused on ADA Title I matters, but is receiving more support and attention for its role in administering Title II matters.

**Chair’s Report**

Gene Lozano asked for the status of implementing the policy and procedure documents reviewed by the DAC and Programs & Services Access Subcommittee earlier this year. Cori Stillson asked for clarification and in the interest of time, proposed that Gene follow up in writing with the specific information requested. He asked for a copy of the Request for Proposal for a Web Content Management System for the DAC to review and comment. Ms. Stillson stated she would provide it. Finally, Mr. Lozano recapped the recent meeting with Airport staff and community stakeholders to discuss improvements in coordinating skycap assistance for people with disabilities, accessible electronic charging stations, wayfinding systems, and other access issues.

**Ex-Officio Reports**

The Ex-Officio reports were deferred.

**Disability Compliance Office (DCO) Report**

Cori Stillson noted there is a possibility of returning to in-person meetings in February 2023. She will keep the DAC apprised of changes as she is made aware.

**Programs and Services Access Subcommittee Report**

Carol Moss summarized the discussion with the Behavioral Health Cultural Competence team, who returned with an update on including disability topics in their training curriculum.

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

Randy Hicks presented the highlights of the past two meetings. Discussion included budget recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, community listening sessions, and how the County will implement Cal-AIM.

**Physical Access Subcommittee Report**

Gene Lozano summarized the presentation from the Department of Transportation on Path Vu, a pedestrian wayfinding smartphone application that they are exploring for possible future use.

**Unfinished/New Business**

1. Questions Back to 211 Sacramento – Members reviewed the response from 211 Sacramento to the DAC’s questions. They were satisfied with the responses and proposed writing a thank you letter to them for all their efforts. Staff will bring a draft for consideration at the next meeting.
2. Questions Back to Safe Stay Team – Members reviewed the response from the Safe Stay team. Discussion ensued and it was determined to follow up regarding the site visit staff had suggested.
3. Communication from Chief Park Ranger re: New Homeless Encampment Ordinance - Members expressed concern regarding the cursory response and lack of transparency in this process. There is a good deal of anecdotal evidence regarding insensitive treatment of people and their property during encampment sweeps. Discussion continued regarding the establishment of a Homeless Task force next year to further examine these issues and how people with disabilities are being impacted.

**Community Announcements**

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

**Proposed Topics for Upcoming Agenda**

**During the next meeting, the work plan for 2023 will be determined.**

**DAC Member Comments**

**Members discussed the upcoming Point In Time count of unsheltered homeless persons. It is expected that the numbers will be significantly greater than the previous count.**

**Adjournment**

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