

**DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

Monday, August 10, 2009  
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

San Jose City Hall – Room T550  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
San José, California 95113

**Commissioners Present:** Vice-Chair Jackie O'Donnell, Commissioners, Erik Kaeding, Daniel Newell, James Westman, Christine Wright, Susie Souza, John Robinson, Commissioners Emeritus Karl Vidt, Emma Eljas

**Commissioners Absent:** Chair Otila Salazar-Torres, Commissioners Paiman Komeilizadeh, Mary Brown, Commissioner Emeritus Susan Espinoza, Aaron Morrow

**Staff Present:** Nina Grayson/Office of Equality Assurance, Eileen Ewing, ADA Coordinator, Steven Wing, Retired ADA Coordinator, Stephanie Holm/Councilmember Pyle's Office

**1. Call to Order/Orders of the Day & Agenda Approval**

Upon motion of Commissioner Newell, seconded by Commissioner Wright, the Orders of the Day and Agenda were approved unanimously

**2. Approval of July 13, 2009 Commission Minutes**

Upon motion of Commissioner Westman, seconded by Commissioner Newell, the July 13, 2009 Minutes were approved unanimously

**3. Open Forum**

No discussion

Please be advised that, by law, the Commission is unable to discuss or take action on issues presented during Open Forum. According to State Law (the Brown Act) items must first be noticed on the agenda before any discussion or action.
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**4. Council Liaison Report (Stephanie Holm)**

Stephanie Holm reported that because of the severe State budget deficit, the State voted to take additional money from the cities. The amount to be taken by the State from San Jose is projected to be \$20M from the General Fund and \$75M

from the Redevelopment Agency. The City will be sending out information regarding proposed cuts in the next few weeks.

**5. Chairperson Report (Otila Salazar-Torres)**

No Report

The Commission welcomed the new ADA Coordinator, Eileen Ewing.

**6. Discussion and Action Regarding September 14, 2009 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Round Table with San Jose City Council**

Chair Salazar-Torres left a message for the Commission that the Office of Therapeutic Services will be able to attend the meeting. The agenda for the Round Table is still being worked on by Chair Salazar-Torres. Some of the issues proposed to be discussed at the Round Table are: Employment, Issues Tracked, Housing, and the DAC Work Plan. The Commissioners and the ADA Coordinator, Eileen Ewing, will contact Chair Salazar-Torres regarding the completion of the agenda.

**7. Discussion and Possible Recommendation to the City Council to Become a Co-Sponsor of the Unison in Industries Conference**

Commissioner Newell reported on a letter he drafted to the City Council with possible recommendations. Commissioner Newell will meet with Councilmember Pyle on Wednesday, August 12th, to discuss the City endorsing the event and possibly becoming a financial co-sponsor. The Conference, to be held on November 12, 2009 in Palo Alto, includes outreach to San Jose residents and businesses.

**8. Approval of a Recommendation to the City Council to Proclaim October 2009 as Employment of Persons with Disabilities Awareness Month in the City of San Jose**

Last year the proclamation for proclaiming October as Employment of Persons with Disability Awareness Month was combined with the proclamation for the City's Disability Awareness Day. It was discussed that it would be preferable to have two separate proclamations because one proclamation is meant to be for the whole month and the other focuses on the one day.

Upon a motion of Commissioner Kaeding, seconded by Commissioner Westman, the Commission recommended unanimously that the proclamation from last year be reworded into two separate proclamations. ADA Coordinator, Eileen Ewing, will draft the proclamations for Commission review and approval. It was suggested that Commissioners Wright and Newell accept the proclamations from City Council.

**9. Discussion and Action Regarding Disability Advisory Commission Work Plan for 2009-2010 (DAC 2009-10 Draft Work Plan provided)**

Upon a motion of Commissioner Westman, seconded by Commissioner Newell, the Commission recommended unanimously to accept the wording added to the DAC Work Plan as item 10, Employment, with a few minor grammatical revisions made by Vice-Chair O'Donnell.

**10. Discussion and Possible Recommendation to the City Council on the State Budget Cuts to Persons with Disabilities**

See Item 4 above for update by Council Liaison Stephanie Holm. Further discussion is tabled until Commissioner Komeilizadeh returns.

**11. Discussion and Action Regarding Commissioner Emeritus status**

Commissioner Emeritus Vidt discussed that the DAC Commission Bylaws do not currently have guidelines for the process of electing a termed-out Commissioner to Emeritus status. Chair Salazar-Torres, Vice-Chair O'Donnell and the current Commissioners with Emeritus status will form a subcommittee to develop more structured guidelines for this process.

Upon a motion of Commissioner Kaeding, seconded by Commissioner Wright, the Commission recommended unanimously that former Commissioner Emma Eljas be elected to Emeritus status.

**12. Santa Clara County Advisory Commission for Persons with Disabilities Liaison Report (Aaron Morrow)**

No report

**13. Report on Standing Commission Items**

- a) **Emergency/Disaster Planning for Persons with Disabilities** – ADA Coordinator, Eileen Ewing, reported that the Emergency Plan on the Office of Emergency Services' website has an outstanding issues appendix. She has contacted Deputy Fire Chief Carillo regarding the status of the facilities identified as emergency shelters to be used for San Jose's vulnerable population. Deputy Fire Chief Carillo will look into it and get back.
- b) **"Strategic Plan, Services for Persons with Disabilities" Advisory Board** Disability Awareness Day to be held October 8, 2009.
- c) **VTA and Paratransit Service Issues** – Council Liaison Stephanie Holm reported that VTA sales tax is down 21%; therefore, the fare increase will go into effect on October 1, instead of January 1.
- d) **DAC Workplan** – See Item 9 above

**14. ADA Coordinator Report (Eileen Ewing)**

See Item 5 above

**15. Announcements**

Due to the Columbus Day Holiday, the DAC Commission meeting will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in October.

**16. Agenda Development**

October – Presentation by PRNS on 2009 Green Print

October - Update on what has been done to promote the U of I Conference

October - Commissioner Kaeding will have Housing speak to DAC Commission

November – Work2Future Update

**17. Adjournment** - meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

To request an accommodation for this meeting or an alternative format for any related printed materials, please contact Nina Grayson at 408-535-8455 or 408-294-9337 (TTY) or [nina.grayson@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:nina.grayson@sanjoseca.gov) as soon as possible, but at least three business days before the meeting.

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DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Monday, August 10, 2009  
2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

San Jose City Hall – Room T550  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
San José, California 95113

1. DAC Roundtable – September 14, 2009
2. U in I Conference
3. DAC Work Plan for 2009-2010