

**DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

Monday, July 13, 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:** Chair Otila Salazar-Torres, Vice-Chair Jackie O'Donnell, Commissioners Paiman Komeilizadeh, Daniel Newell, James Westman, Christine Wright, John Robinson, Commissioners Emeritus Aaron Morrow, Karl Vidt

**Commissioners Absent:** Commissioners Mary Brown, Erik Kaeding, Susie Souza, Commissioner Emeritus Susan Espinoza

**Staff Present:** Nina Grayson/Office of Equality Assurance, Stephanie Holm/Councilmember Pyle's Office

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

Upon motion of Vice-Chair O'Donnell, seconded by Commissioner Westman, the Orders of the Day and Agenda were approved unanimously.

**2. Approval of June 8, 2009 Commission Minutes**

Upon motion of Commissioner Westman, seconded by Commissioner Komeilizadeh, the June 8, 2009 Minutes were approved unanimously.

**3. Open Forum**

Commissioner Emeritus Vidt reported that St.James/Julian Streets were being converted to 2-way streets and the street crowning issue that the Commission had brought to the attention of the Department of Transportation was being addressed with the conversion.

Vice-Chair O'Donnell reported that the recycling and trash receptacles outside of the City Hall Tower restrooms are blocking the drinking fountains.

Commissioner Emeritus Morrow reported that the intersection at Camden/Union is dangerous because of the markings.

Commissioner Komeilizadeh expressed concern regarding potential State budget cuts affecting persons with disabilities and wants the Commission to send a letter

to the City Council expressing those concerns. This will be added to the August DAC Agenda for discussion and action.

**4. Council Liaison Report**

Stephanie Holm reported that Council was on recess for the month of July. She also reported that the paratransit service changes were e-mailed to Commissioners along with the inclusionary housing ordinance meeting scheduled for July 16, 2009.

**5. Chairperson Report**

Chair Salazar-Torres welcomed the Commission's newest member, Commissioner Robinson. Chair Salazar-Torres also acknowledged the Commission's new vice-chair, Vice Chair Jackie O'Donnell. The Chair reported that she would be meeting with Mayor Reed to discuss upcoming events: DAC's annual Roundtable scheduled for September 14, Disability Awareness Day in October and the U in I Conference scheduled for November.

**6. Santa Clara County Advisory Commission for Persons with Disabilities Liaison Report**

Commissioner Emeritus Morrow reported that the Santa Clara County Advisory Commission for Persons with Disabilities did not meet in June.

**7. Presentation by National Alliance on Mental Illness**

John Mitchem, a volunteer from the National Alliance on Mental Illness, spoke about his personal experiences having a daughter diagnosed with schizophrenia in her 20s and how helpful the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has been. Mr. Mitchem provided Commissioners with copies of NAMI's July 2009 newsletter and the City of San Jose's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT). Mr. Mitchem willingly provided his e-mail address ([mitchem@pacbell.net](mailto:mitchem@pacbell.net)) and his home phone number (408-259-2256).

**8. Discussion and Action Regarding U in I Conference**

Upon motion of Commissioner O'Donnell, seconded by Commissioner Wright, the Commission recommended unanimously that the City Commissioner Newell reported that the next Conference Committee Meeting will be held on August 19, 1009 at 1:30 pm at 420 South Pastoria Avenue (NOVA/Connect Offices). The Commission can assist by attracting businesses to participate in the conference. It was also suggested that the DAC recommend that the City endorse the event and become a co-sponsor. Commissioner Newell will work with Stephanie Holm of Councilmember Pyle's Office to draft a memo to Rules Committee recommending the City become a co-sponsor.

**9. Discussion and Action Regarding August 10, 2009 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Round Table with San Jose City Council**

The Annual Round Table with San Jose City Council will take place on Monday, September 14, 2009 from 4 – 5:30 pm in the City Hall Wing. Topics/hand-outs

include: issues tracked; DAC Work Plan; employment of persons with disabilities; disability etiquette.

#### 10. Report on Standing Commission Items

- a) **Emergency/Disaster Planning for Persons with Disabilities** – deferred to 8/10/09 DAC meeting
- b) **“Strategic Plan, Services for Persons with Disabilities” Advisory Board** – deferred to 8/10/09 DAC meeting
- c) **VTA and Paratransit Service Issues** – Commissioner Emeritus Morrow asked staff to e-mail VTA Travel Training sheet and the CTA Mobility Options Program Workshop slides to DAC members. He also mentioned that VTA fare increases begin in October 2009 and that VTA is initiating its light rail analysis to assess disabled travel patterns.
- d) **DAC Workplan** – deferred to 8/10/09 DAC meeting

#### 11. ADA Coordinator Report

Nina Grayson reported that placement interviews are scheduled this week for the ADA Coordinator position.

#### 12. Announcements – there were no announcements

#### 13. Agenda Development

**August** – proclamation for employment of persons with disabilities; letter regarding state budget cuts for vulnerable population; Round Table; discussion and action regarding Commissioner Emeritus status

**September – Presentation by PRNS on 2009 Green Print** – staff to move presentation to October 2009

#### 14. Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 5:35 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.

All public records relating to an open session item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body will be available for public inspection at the Department of Public Works – Office of Equality Assurance at San José City Hall, 200 E. Santa

Clara Street, Tower, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, San José, CA 95113 at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body.

DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Monday, July 13, 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 – August 10, 2009
2. UNI Conference
3. City's ADA Coordinator position