

DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMISSION

Office of Equality Assurance
City of San José . Public Works Department
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, California

MINUTES

May 12, 2008

Commissioners Present

Mary Brown
Emma Eljas
Kevin Lichtenberg
Jackie O'Donnell
Otila Salazar
Susie Souza
Aaron Morrow (Commissioner Emeritus)
Karl Vidt (Commissioner Emeritus)

Commissioners Absent

Susan Espinoza
Anette Howell
Erik Kaeding

Council Liaison Present

Stephanie Holm for Councilmember Pyle

Staff Present

Steve Wing, ADA Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Salazar called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

2. Orders of the Day & Agenda Approval

Upon the motion of Commissioner Eljas, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the Orders of the Day and Agenda were approved unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes for April 14, 2008

Upon the motion of Commissioner O'Donnell, seconded by Commissioner Eljas, the Minutes as presented were approved unanimously.

4. Open Forum

No comments.

5. Council Liaison Report

Stephanie Holm reported that Council Member Pyle, as a member of the County Emergency Coordinating Council, wanted the DAC to know that the County is obtaining a system to contact people by telephone in an emergency. Ms. Holm also reported that the County was considering providing support to hire a CADRE Coordinator. There is also a project to work with the Volunteer Center to better manage spontaneous volunteers in an emergency.

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6. Chairperson Report – Susan Espinoza

On behalf of the Chairperson, Mr. Wing reported that Jeffrey Lewis has resigned from the DAC.

7. Santa Clara County Advisory Commission For People With Disabilities Liaison Report – Aaron Morrow

.No report.

8. Senior Commission Liaison Report – Richard Kohl

No report.

9. Agenda for the Annual Roundtable Meeting

This item was deferred for discussion at the next DAC meeting.

10. Standing Commission Items

a. Emergency/Disaster Planning for Persons with Disabilities

Ms. Salazar reported that she and other City staff attended the annual CADRE conference on Disaster Preparedness Planning for Vulnerable Populations. She said that Richard Devylder, Special Assistant to the governor's Office of Emergency Services, provided a very good presentation on what needs to be done to ensure and improve disaster planning for people with disabilities. Mr. Devylder offered to assist the City to improve their plans in this area.

b. Therapeutic Services – Strategic Plan, Services for Persons with Disabilities

Mr. Wing reported that the Strategic Plan Advisory Board was planning and organizing a disability awareness event to be held in October at City Hall. The event is to be targeted to both the disability community as well as the broader community. There was discussion among Commission members about the need for more information about the Office of Therapeutic Services and their Strategic Plan. It was requested that staff provide the DAC with more background information.

c. VTA and Paratransit Service Issues

Mr. Morrow reported that the Committee on Transit Accessibility is still trying to get information from VTA about the emergency/disaster procedures for persons riding buses or light rail. VTA will be considering a new RFP in the future to select a new paratransit provider when the Outreach contract expires. There was also discussion about the use of Measure A funds, a new transit hub at De Anza College and the need to do additional travel training.

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d. Envision San José 2040

Discussion of this item was referred to the discussion of the DAC Workplan.

e. DAC Workplan

Each commissioner discussed the accessibility issues that they were most interested in having on the Workplan. Vice-Chair Salazar will compile the list of topics and send it to DAC members for future discussion. Mr. Vidt suggested that the DAC review its mission statement and review the DAC brochure which had previously been approved by the DAC. Mr. Wing will locate the DAC brochure and send it out to the DAC members.

11. ADA Coordinator Report

Mr. Wing reported that staff is continuing to work on updating the City's emergency/disaster plans to ensure they are accessible. There has been a noticeable increase in the number of calls requesting disability information as a result of the information posted on the City's website.

12. Announcements

No additional announcements

13. Agenda Development

The June meeting agenda should include nomination of Susan Espinoza for Commissioner Emeritus and election of Commission officers for the 2008 . 2009 fiscal year.

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.