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

**Meeting Minutes for April 4, 2023**

**Members Present:**, Randy Hicks, Vice Chair; Patty Gainer, Jeff Gasaway, Ex-Officio; Troy Givans, Ex-Officio; Marc Laver, Hang Nguyen, Ex-Officio; LaTasha Richardson, Kathy Sachen, Angela Talent, Rami Zakaria, Ex-Officio.

**Members Absent:** Gene Lozano, Chair; Carol Moss (participated via Zoom w/o approved reason), Reggie Nelson.

**Guests: Chris Martin, Ed Cox, Joe Conklin, Department of Airports; Isabel Arreola, DAC applicant; Gabe Corrie, DAC applicant; Jeff Tardaguila, DAC Physical Access Subcommittee member; Timothy Alavi-Irvine, Sacramento County Climate Emergency Mobilization Task Force.**

**Staff: Cori Stillson, Cheryl Bennett,** Disability Compliance Office (DCO).

**Call to Order and Introductions**

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order with a quorum present. Staff took roll call of members and guests introduced themselves.

**Approval of Members’ Requests to Participate via Zoom**

**The Vice Chair called for the approval of Latasha Richardson and Patty Gainer’s requests to participate via Zoom in accordance with the Brown Act. Hearing no objections, the requests were approved. Carol Moss participated via Zoom but without a Brown Act approved reason.**

**Approval of the Minutes**

**The meeting minutes for March 7, 2023 were reviewed and adopted with a minor amendment.**

**Public Comments**

**Timothy Alavi-Irvine introduced himself as the Chair of the newly formed Sacramento County Climate Emergency Mobilization Task Force (CEMTF). He is reaching out to other Boards and Commissions, especially those that represent vulnerable populations. He asked to share information and updates with the DAC via email and invited everyone’s input and participation in upcoming CEMTF meetings.**

**Airports Updates**

**Chris Martin, Ed Cox, Joe Conklin provided updates regarding Airports projects, new and ongoing. Their newest project, dubbed SMF4, will add a number of new amenities to Sacramento International Airport. A new ground transportation center is being constructed and a new pedestrian walkway is planned between concourses in addition to the current automated people mover. They would like to return to the DAC in May to discuss these projects in more detail**. Regarding the ADA Self Evaluation and Transition Plan, the contract has been sent to Sally Swanson Architects (SSA) for signature. Because of some urgent needs, assessments will begin at Executive Airport. Following up on the “quick fixes” recommended by the disability access focus group, the final outstanding item is almost complete. An accessible charging station for mobility devices and other electronics has been purchased, and will be installed as soon as some logistical challenges are resolved. A service animal policy is being finalized and some rules and regulations for airport tenants (restaurants and shops) are in development as well. Airport staff would like to return approximately every other month to keep the DAC abreast of these projects and obtain their input during development.

**Chair’s Report**

Vice Chair Randy Hicks wished Chair Gene Lozano a speedy recovery and expressed hope that he would return soon. Everyone joined him in wishing Mr. Lozano well.

**Ex-Officio Reports**

Hang Nguyen announced the Department of Voter Registration and Elections is updating their forms and processes during this non-election year. The Language Accessibility and the Voting Accessibility advisory committees will be reinstated to assist. She introduced Kanji Furukawa as the Precinct Operations Manager. He spoke about upcoming surveys of vote centers and other voting facilities for accessibility and staff training. Members asked questions and discussion ensued. Jeff Gasaway followed up regarding the status of the Homeless Services and Housing Task Force, inquiring if they were still anticipating site visits to the Safe Stay locations and if they had met with the program provider yet. The Chair responded yes regarding the site visits and no regarding the meeting with the program planner. Mr. Gasaway responded he would follow up to facilitate next steps. The other Ex-Officio members deferred their reports.

**Disability Compliance Office (DCO) Report**

Cheryl Bennett updated the Commission with an email from the Clerk of the Board’s office, describing the progress in development of an accessible on-line application for Boards and Commissions.

**Programs and Services Access Subcommittee Report**

Carol Moss noted the Subcommittee did not meet last month. The Subcommittee will revisit its work plan to select a new project at the April meeting.

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

Randy Hicks shared that the HSCC did not meet in February. In March, they reviewed some programs of Health Services. Of particular concern is the current vacancy rate of 45% for Mental Health Counselors and 35% for Senior Mental Health Counselors. These staffing levels are unlikely to be able to fully support the needs of the community particularly with CalAIM soon to be implemented.

**Homeless Services and Housing Task Force Report**

Randy Hicks stated the Task Force is looking forward to the Safe Stay site visit. He added his concerns about the interactions of law enforcement with people experiencing homelessness and suggested inviting newly-elected Sheriff Jim Cooper to a future DAC meeting.

**Physical Access Subcommittee Report**

Gene Lozano was not present to report. It’s unclear how long he may be out. Cheryl Bennett suggested appointing an acting Chair to conduct the April 18 meeting. Randy Hicks appointed Kathy Sachen as Acting Subcommittee Chair until Mr. Lozano returns.

**Unfinished/New Business**

**There was no unfinished or new business.**

**Community Announcements**

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

**Proposed Topics for Upcoming Agenda**

**With the Chair temporarily unavailable, Cheryl Bennett proposed that the Executive Committee meet to determine the next agenda and to discuss any other administrative or leadership needs in the interim. The date of Friday April 21 at 4:00 PM was selected. The meeting location will be 700 H Street, room TBD.**

**DAC Member Comments**

**Additional discussion ensued**

**Adjournment**

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