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

**Meeting Minutes for January 3, 2023**

**Members Present:**, Gene Lozano, Chair; Randy Hicks, Vice Chair; Patty Gainer, Carol Moss, LaTasha Richardson, Kathy Sachen, Angela Talent.

**Members Absent:** Jeff Gasaway, Ex-Officio; Troy Givans, Ex-Officio; Reggie Nelson.

**Guests: Marc Laver, United Cerebral Palsy (UCP); Jeff Tardaguila, DAC Physical Access Subcommittee member; Peter Mendoza, Community Advocate.**

**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 December 6, 2022 were reviewed and adopted as submitted.**

**Public Comments**

**Peter Mendoza expressed concern about response to people with disabilities who use medical equipment requiring electricity, as many have lost power for extended periods of time during this storm. Jeffrey Tardaguila inquired if sign language interpreters have been included in live televised press conferences, but no one had seen or was aware of a live press conference to date. Cheryl Bennett noted that despite being an Access and Functional Needs Coordinator during disaster, she had not been assigned to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during this disaster. These concerns will be addressed when the emergency has passed.**

**Office of Emergency Services (OES) Draft Evacuation Route Maps and Information: Review and Provide Feedback/Recommendations**

Jason D’Alessio, OES Assistant Emergency Operations Coordinator was not available due to being assigned to the Emergency Operations Center to support the current disaster response. Members reviewed two draft examples of Evacuation Route Maps and a flyer of basic emergency preparedness information. It was noted that the preparedness information did not reference the needs of people with disabilities. Gene Lozano stated that the maps were inaccessible using screen reader software. Cheryl Bennett noted she had advised OES that a verbal description of the evacuation routes would be required to achieve equivalent effective communication as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Mr. Lozano inquired if any public transit stops were indicated on the map where people with disabilities or those without private transportation could get picked up. There are not, and it is not clear if Regional Transit/Paratransit/RT Go are coordinating in this process. This topic will be revisited on a future agenda.

**Finalize Work Plan for 2023**

Members reviewed the draft Work Plan. After brief discussion, one item was added regarding ongoing coordination with the Department of Airports. It was moved (Talent) and seconded (Gainer) to adopt the 2023 Work Plan as amended. Approved, unanimously.

**Chair’s Report**

Gene Lozano recapped his recent follow up discussion with Dr. Sylvester Fadal, regarding amending the DCO budget to fund a program review and desk audit. There is still no funding identified at the present time for adding additional positions.

**Ex-Officio Reports**

The Ex-Officio reports were deferred.

**Disability Compliance Office (DCO) Report**

Cori Stillson announced that in person meeting would resume in March. Hearing Rooms 1 and 2 are not available for four of the standing meeting dates. Discussion ensued regarding moving the meeting to the first Wednesday of the month. Staff will investigate other options and this will be revisited next month.

**Programs and Services Access Subcommittee Report**

Carol Moss reported the Subcommittee finalized its 2023 Work Plan. At the next meeting, representatives from Behavioral Health Services Cultural Competence Team will return to review their annual report and staff survey.

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

The HSCC did not meet in December. This month, they will be revisiting their accomplishments for 2022 and determining their work plan for the coming year.

**Physical Access Subcommittee Report**

Gene Lozano summarized Heather Yee’s presentation on the final Arden Way Complete Streets Master Plan. At the January meeting, there will be an update from the Department of General Services on ADA improvements to County facilities.

**Unfinished/New Business**

Cheryl Bennett announced that DAC Ex-Officio member Courtney Bailey-Kanelos, Registrar of Voters, has resigned from the County. Members expressed great regret at her departure. Ms. Bennett noted that her replacement is Hang Nguyen, the Assistant Registrar, who has been integral to coordinating many of the accessibility initiatives in cooperation with the DAC. Ms. Bennett shared that she had reached out to Ms. Nguyen to ask if she is able to communicate with Ms. Bailey-Kanelos and she responded she is. The DAC agreed by consensus that they would like to send a letter of gratitude for all of her efforts on behalf of the disability community. A draft will be considered at the next meeting.

**Community Announcements**

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

**Proposed Topics for Upcoming Agenda**

**A representative of County Counsel will provide an update on the new Brown Act requirements for hybrid meetings. If possible, the OES representative will be scheduled to discuss the Evacuation Routes.**

**DAC Member Comments**

**There were no additional comments from DAC members**

**Adjournment**

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