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

**Meeting Minutes for June 3, 2025**

**Members Present:** Gene Lozano, Chair; Isabel Arreola. Yetta Brown, Patty Gainer, Troy Givans, Ex-Officio; Joshua Green, Ex-Officio; Randy Hicks, Dustin Knott, Hang Nguyen, Ex-Officio; Angela Talent (via Zoom); Tremmel Watson, Rami Zakaria, Ex Officio

**Members Absent:** Kathy Sachen, Vice Chair

**Guests**;Jeffery Tardaguila, DAC Physical Access Subcommittee member;

**Staff: Cori Stillson, Cheryl Bennett,** Department of Personnel Services; **Garnik Mikaleyan, Chris Martin, Joe Conklin, Friedan McLean, Department of Airports: Melissa Jacobs, Senior & Adult Services;** Kristin Riggs, Sean Ayala, Melinda Dubroff, Metro Cable 14; Angelina Olweny, Melinda Avey, Human Services Coordinating Council (HSCC); Mallory and Kim**, American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters; Tej Kaur, CART captioner**.

**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.

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

It was moved and seconded (Knott/Watson) to allow Angela Talent to participate via Zoom. Approved, unanimously.

**Approval of the Minutes**

**The May 6, 2025 meeting minutes were adopted as submitted.**

**Public Comments**

**Jeff Tardaguila gave a brief overview of state budget cuts that will affect the disability community.**

**Human Services Coordinating Council (HSCC) Reorganization Plan and By-laws Updates** Melinda Avey, HSCC Chair; Angelina Olweny, Project Coordinator, Valley Vision provided a brief overview of the process of restructuring the HSCC. They described the new membership structure and explained the by-laws changes that were required as a result of the changes, Gene Lozano noted that the recruitment flyer shared by the HSCC had some accessibility barriers with his adaptive software. Ms. Avey pledged to follow up to address the barrier.

**Requesting Input re: Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Closed Captioning on Metro Cable TV Channel 14 Broadcasts**

Kristin Riggs described the current system used for captioning public meetings on Metro Cable TV, which is live using human captioners. They are considering using Artificial Intelligence (AI) as it would represent a significant cost savings. Ms. Riggs asked for feedback, especially from the D/deaf members. Dustin Knott and Tremmel Watson both expressed strong objections due to the frequency of inaccuracies that occur with AI captions. Ms. Riggs invited members to follow up with additional information and input as Metro Cable further considers this change.

**DAC Officer Elections**

Election of Chair: Gene Lozano was announced as the nominee for Chair as determined by the Nominations Committee. Nominations were solicited from the floor. Isabel Arreola and Yetta Brown were nominated and accepted the nomination. A roll call vote was taken and Gene Lozano obtained the majority of the votes. Mr. Lozano will be DAC Chair for the 2025-26 term.

Election of Vice Chair: Isabel Arreola was announced as the nominee for Vice Chair as determined by the Nominations Committee. Nominations were solicited from the floor. Tremmel Watson was nominated and accepted the nomination. A roll call vote was taken, resulting in a tie. The election of Vice Chair will be conducted again at the August meeting.

**Consider DAC Position Paper: Strengthening Sacramento County’s Disability Compliance Office**

Gene Lozano summarized the content of the Position Paper. Isabel Arreola added her perspective as the Task Force Chair. Mr. Lozano noted some last-minute edits he had made. It was moved/seconded (Arreola/Talent) to adopt the Position Paper with Mr. Lozano’s amendments. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved by a majority vote.

**Chair’s Report**

Gene Lozano asked for input regarding whether members want to meet on July 1 or take the traditional hiatus. By consensus all agreed to a hiatus on July 1. Mr. Lozano stated the Physical Access Subcommittee would meet in July. He asked the Programs and Services Access Subcommittee Chair if that subcommittee would meet. Dustin Knott chose a hiatus in July for that Subcommittee.

**Ex-Officio Reports**

There were no reports from the Ex-Officio members.

**Disability Compliance Office (DCO) Report**

Cheryl Bennett gave kudos to the Department of Waste Management and Recycling’s Sac Green Team for being creative and resourceful in working out a challenging accommodation request from a member of the public.

**Programs and Services Access Subcommittee Report**

**The report was deferred.**

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

**The report was deferred.**

**Physical Access Subcommittee Report**

**The report was deferred.**

**Homeless Services and Housing Task Force Report**

The report was deferred.

**Unfinished/New Business**

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

**Community Announcements**

**Jeff Tardaguila spoke about ongoing coordination with Regional Transit to address access concerns with the new low floor light rail cars.**

**Proposed Topics for Upcoming Agenda**

**Another election will be held for the office of Vice Chair and the proposed Nominations Committee procedures will be addressed.**

**DAC Member Comments**

**There were no additional comments.**

**Adjournment**

**The meeting was adjourned.**