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

**Meeting Minutes for October 3, 2023**

**Members Present:**, Randy Hicks, Chair; Gene Lozano, Vice Chair (via Zoom w/ approval); Isabel Arreola, Patty Gainer, Marc Laver, Hang Nguyen, Ex-Officio; Kathy Sachen, Angela Talent, Rami Zakaria, Ex-Officio.

**Members Absent:** Jeff Gasaway, Ex-Officio; Troy Givans, Ex-Officio; Reggie Nelson, LaTasha Richardson (participated via Zoom w/o approval).

**Guests: Melissa Jacobs, Deputy Director, Senior and Adult Services; Jeffery Tardaguila, DAC Physical Access Subcommittee member; Diane Marlow, Mindy Scates-Gonzales, Dept. of Personnel Services.**



**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.

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

**It was moved and seconded (Arreola/Talent) to approve Gene Lozano’s request for virtual attendance. Approved unanimously.**

**Approval of the Minutes**

**The meeting minutes for September 5, 2023 were reviewed and approved with one proposed amendment.**

**Public Comments**

**Jeffery Tardaguila spoke about the planned Regional Transit (RT) dedicated bus lane on Stockton Blvd. He expressed concerns about the many riders who use mobility devices along that route and the busses’ capacity for only two riders using wheelchairs, due to the new route being much longer.**

**Review Draft Scope of Work for Request for Proposal for Consultant to Review Disability Compliance Office**

Coris Stillson and Mindy Scates-Gonzalez shared the draft Request for Proposal document. Members asked questions and discussion ensued. Gene Lozano asked that more of the elements in the recommendations contained in the 2021-22 DAC Annual Report. He recommended that language be added to specify that a representative of an ADA Coordinator’s Office from major cities recognized for their effectiveness and innovation, such as Chicago, San Francisco and Philadelphia. Ms. Stillson noted the input and welcomed additional follow up comments via email.

**Summary Report of ADA/HIPAA Projects at County Jails from Chevon Kothari, Deputy County Executive, Social Services**

Members reviewed the Report. They discussed possible follow up questions regarding accessible medical exam tables, dentist chairs and diagnostic equipment; mental health care and medication administration; response to inmates; requests for reasonable accommodations; and basic safety and security for people with disabilities who are more vulnerable in the jail environment. It was noted the report references a Jail Accessibility Plan which might be helpful to review. This may be a topic for consideration in the 2024 Work Plan.

**Chair’s Report**

Randy Hicks announced the next Executive Committee meeting would be on Monday, October 23 at 3:00 PM, location TBD. The main topic on the Agenda will be to discuss the draft letter regarding scheduling timed items before the Board of Supervisors.

**Ex-Officio Reports**

Hang Nguyen provided an update on activities leading to Election Day November 7. Rami Zakaria did not report.

**Disability Compliance Office (DCO) Report**

Cheryl Bennett shared information about an upcoming disaster preparedness exercise and ongoing coordination on adding accessible components to the evacuation maps. She also provided updates from participation on the Department of Technology (DTech) Web Content Creators Team, who are working on improving accessibility of County web pages. Ms. Bennett also noted that the Renters’ Helpline has been shut down due to contractual changes. The DCO receives numerous calls from people needing assistance with access barriers in their rental housing and now there is nowhere to refer them. New DCO staff member Diane Marlow was introduced. She is working on creating some databases from the ADA Self Evaluation data and gathering more information to help evaluate the proposed updates to the ADA Grievance process.

**Programs and Services Access Subcommittee Report**

Angela Talent noted the Subcommittee continues to refine the draft letter to Behavioral Health Services mobile crisis program staff.

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

This report was deferred.

**Homeless Services and Housing Task Force Report**

This report was deferred.

**Physical Access Subcommittee Report**

Gene Lozano recapped the Department of Transportation’s presentation on planned pedestrian and bicycle facility improvements along Folsom Blvd. Mr. Lozano is continuing to hold discussions with SacDOT regarding trapezoidal delineators on the Arden Way project. In the near future, the Subcommittee would like to begin to address pedestrian safety and accessibility issues at rail crossings.

**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**

**The possibility of reviewing or having a presentation on the Jail Accessibility report was discussed.**

**DAC Member Comments**

**There were no additional comments.**

**Adjournment**

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