



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

MINUTES

Wednesday, November 8, 2017, 1:00 P.M.

Department on Disability

201 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 100, Los Angeles, California 90012

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Dr. Robert Bitonte
Myrna Cabanban
Theresa de Vera
Alisa Schlesinger
David Wolf

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Richard Rothenberg
Iran Hopkins
Robert Williams

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

Lourdes Sinibaldi
Tony Abraham
Akia Lindo

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

Chris Lee, City Attorney
Nick Lopez, PW, Bureau of Street Services

GUESTS:

ITEM NO. (1): APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

President de Vera called the meeting to order. Roll call was conducted, and a quorum of the Commissioners was present.

Action Taken: The Commission approved the October 11, 2017 meeting minutes.

ITEM NO. (2): PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment Received.

No Action Taken, Informational Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (3): Public Notice and Signage during Special Events and Street

Presentation was by Nick Lopez, General Superintendent I, Public Works, Bureau of Street Services, Resurfacing Division. He discussed how his bureau provides public notice and signage during street construction, but noted that the Department of Transportation was responsible for implementing notice and signage for special events.

No Action Taken, Informational Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (4): COD Retreat

The Commission approved the following motions:

1. "The Commission recommends inviting people from the employment and workforce development department and from the mayor's office to discuss employment programs and policies for people with disabilities." Approved unanimously.

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2. “The Commission recommends inviting people from the employment and workforce development department and from the mayor’s office to discuss homelessness and accessible low-income housing programs and policies for people with disabilities. However, the topics of homelessness and accessible low-income housing are separate and should not be commingled when being discussed. “Approved unanimously.
3. “The Commission recommends coordinating representatives from the Hill Health Services county health services to discuss how a field officer, a medical physician, a psychiatrist and an analyst could be used in their mobile advance unit for field work to the homeless population in Los Angeles” Approved unanimously.

The following motion was retracted:

1. “The Commission recommends requesting the City of Los Angeles to petition the federal government to increase the amount of Section 8 funds coming to the City of Los Angeles.”

The Commission requested that DOD’s staff examine the Mayor’s Directive on intergovernmental relations and determine the proper chain of command for reaching out to federal and state agencies. Additionally, the Commission also requested gathering more information from the Mayor’s Office, local providers of Section 8 funds, and other larger cities like New York, Chicago, in order to understand funding for housing and compare Los Angeles’ funding level to that of other cities.

The following motion did not pass:

1. “The Commission recommends requesting the Mayor to petition federal agencies that work with people with disabilities to present on mental health issues.

Action Taken.

ITEM NO. (5): Executive Director's Report

Lourdes Sinibaldi provided the Executive Director's Report.

On October 18th, the Department on Disability held Disability Mentoring Day, coordinating and hosting students and job-seekers from local community colleges, pairing them with City employees.

On October 26th, the Department hosted the 10th annual Disability Art Exhibit and had 120 community members who recognized 33 participating artist from the Braille Institute, Sol, and the Academy of Dreams.

From October 23rd through October 26th, three of Disability's employees attended training in San Diego about the interpretation and application of disability law. The training is provided by the National Association of ADA Coordinators.

Finally, the Department on Disability is working on its proposed FY 2018-19 budget, which is due to the Mayor's Office on Friday, November 17th.

No Action Taken, Informational Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (6): New Business and Announcements

President de Vera requested that DWP be invited to speak about special discount programs offered for people with disabilities who use a high amount of electricity to operate CPAP machines, respirators, dialysis, etc.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (7): Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:54 p.m.

Action Taken.