



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

MINUTES

Wednesday, January 9, 2019, 1:00 P.M.

Department on Disability

200 N. Spring Street, Room 350, Los Angeles, California 90012

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Theresa de Vera
Myrna Cabanban
Alisa Schlesinger
Dr. Robert Bitonte
Iran Hopkins
David Wolf
Richard Rothenberg
Robert Williams

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Betty Wilson (excused)

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability

Peter Soto, Department on Disability

Sergio Samayoa, Administrative Division Manager for the Department on Disability

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

City Attorney Office

Department of Recreation and Parks, City of Los Angeles, Deanne Dedmon, Supervisor. Rec. Services Branch.

*AUDIO TAPE(S) and CAPTIONING NOTES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

GUESTS:

Shane's Inspiration, Tiffany Harris, Senior Vice President of Programs.

Clishna Taber, Regional Vice President of Customer Experience, Butterfly

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

President de Vera called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The Commission had a quorum.

Action Taken: The Commission approved the November 14, 2018, meeting minutes.

ITEM NO. (2): PUBLIC COMMENT

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (3): INCLUSION AND ACCESS IN ATHLETICS, HEALTH, AND FITNESS.

Discussion and presentation on the varied education, prevention and support services offered in Los Angeles in regards to the disability community. (First appeared on COD Agenda 7-11-18).

- I. Department of Recreation and Parks, City of Los Angeles, Deanne Dedmon, Supervisor. Rec. Services Branch – The Department of Recreation and Parks reported on access among its sites and provide details on Universal Access Playgrounds, as well as plans to offer and incorporate Adaptive Sports in conjunction with Paralympic sports. Currently the Department of Recreation and Parks have 99 parks with outdoor fitness programs with another 31 in process. The newly installed parks have accessible play equipment, having at least 25 percent of its pieces accessible. They also have two accessible baseball diamonds and most of their 62 pools are assessable. They are

hoping for additional funding for the Olympics for creating more accessible parks. The department will be piloting several of the sites and providing sports and fitness with an Olympic theme.

- II. Shane's Inspiration, Tiffany Harris, Senior Vice President of Programs— Since 1998, Shane's Inspiration has been working in partnership with City departments to make Los Angeles the most playable city in the world for children with disabilities. Working both locally and internationally, they have 69 inclusive playgrounds open and 50 more in development. Since 2004, they have served 200 schools locally through their free social inclusion education program called Together, We Are Able. The program combines a free curriculum and online training and establishes sustainable social inclusion for thousands of students with disabilities. The Together, We Are Able program have reached more than 30,000 students in Los Angeles. They have partnered with the Department of Recreation and Parks and City Council to open 42 accessible playgrounds in L.A. County and open another 70 accessible playgrounds worldwide. They also started my play club in 2002 for play in the park and education programs that go into schools to build bridges between students with and without disabilities. Currently, they have reached 40 thousand kids.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (4): EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Discussion of items relating to Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, and/or other relevant issues. Presentation is by Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, Department on Disability. Guest speaker Clishna Taber with Butterfly, a private company that provides accessible ambulatory, wheelchair, and gurney transportation. They also provide transportation in San Diego and some parts of Northern California for regional centers, medical facilities and school trips. They are currently working on an app, but people

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can still call for their services. They are endorsed by LADOT and the Mayor's Office and are part of Flex LA., a commuter service within the immediate downtown area. Guest speaker is Sergio, Administrative Division Manager for the Department on Disability to give an update on the department's budget. DOD's budget proposal is focused on addressing the ability to meet the legal mandates and addressing policy priorities for the City and the Mayor's Office. DOD is planning to meet with different Council Offices to understand what our requests are, what we need, and why we need it. If something in the proposed budget needs to be removed or changed, the public has the opportunity to advocate for reinstatement. The Department on Disability's largest projects over the next 3 years is the self-evaluation and transition plan. DOD is also working on getting tens of thousands of people to recognize the importance of ADA for the ADA summer 2020 event. DOD will also be steering a committee to discuss the RealAbilities Film Festival. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please talk to DOD or to Commissioner Schlesinger.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (5): CALENDAR REVISION AND APPROVAL

The Commission will revise the calendar and vote to approve.

Action Taken: The Commission on Disability approved the revised calendar.

ITEM NO. (6): NEW BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Suggested items for the next regular meeting's agenda and announcements from Commissioners, DOD staff, and guests, as well as follow-up items from this or previous commission meetings. DOD will follow-up with Joe Wheatly, the promoter/facilitator at Muscle Beach Venice Beach to come present during the month of May. The COD would like to thank Jane Chung from the Mayor's

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Office. She was our Mayor Council and has moved on to another position with the Mayor's Office.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only

ITEM NO. (7): ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 3:30 P.M.