



# COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

## MINUTES

1:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 6, 2015

Los Angeles City Hall Board of Public Works

200 North Spring Street, Room 350, Los Angeles, California 90012

### COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Robert Bitonte

David Wolf

Theresa de Vera

Richard Rothenberg Alisa Schlesinger

Robert Williams

Betty Wilson

### COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Michael Griggs (excused)

Harriet Posner (excused)

### DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

Stephen Simon, Executive Director

Angela Kaufman, ADA Compliance Officer

Tony Abraham, Senior Management Analyst

### COMMISSION STAFF:

### OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

- Ken Husting, LADOT

### GUESTS:

- Fernando Morales, representation from Senate District 26
- Neal Richman, WCIL
- Richard Dondiago, WCIL
- Louis Burns, Access
- Matthew Avicenna, Access
- Ms. Holmquest, Special Olympics

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

**ITEM NO. (1): CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INTRODUCTIONS**

President Bitonte called the regular meeting to order at 1:20 P.M. Roll call was conducted and a quorum of the commissioners was present.

DISPOSITION: ACTION TAKEN.

**ITEM NO. (2): APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTE**

Commission approved the April 2015 meeting minutes.

DISPOSITION: ACTION TAKEN

**ITEM NO. (3): PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comments were granted.

DISPOSITION: PUBLIC COMMENTARY RECEIVED – FOR ANNOUNCEMENT PURPOSES ONLY\*

**ITEM NO. (4): VACCINATIONS**

Fernando Morales, representative from for Senator Ben Allen, California Senate District 26, discussed the senate bill that proposes eliminating the vaccination opt-out for families of school children.

After hearing public comment, the Commission voted to defer the motion before it. The motion will be scheduled for the COD's June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

DISPOSITION: ACTION TAKEN

**ITEM NO. (5): DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S DISABLED PARKING PLACARD POLICY.**

Ken Husting, Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), provided data about parking placard use in downtown Los Angeles, in order to determine the content of a future "Disabled Parking Placard Policy."

The Commission requested LADOT to return next month. Additional meetings between DOT and DOD will be arranged and findings will be summarized for the Commission's consideration.

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY\*

**ITEM NO. (6): STATE SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT (SSP).**

The Commission on Disability approved Motion 05062015-6 relative to the Commission on Disability recommending that the Mayor and City Council support the statewide efforts underway to increase the overall SSI amount through the State Supplemental Payment (SSP).

The Advocacy Action Group (AAG) requested the support from the Mayor and City Council for statewide efforts to increase the overall SSI amount through the State's augmentation of the State Supplemental Payment (SSP).

DISPOSITION: ACTION TAKEN

**ITEM NO. (7): LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR ACCESS SERVICES.**

Because the Commission lacked a quorum at the time of considering this item, the Commission could not vote on the motion 05062015-7 relative to the Commission on Disability approving a letter of support of Access' petition for an amendment to the federal regulations on fares.

The motion was deferred until the next meeting.

However, Access could discuss with the Department on Disability about sending out a letter of support, since the Commission could not act at this time.

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN

**ITEM NO. (8) PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING FOR DISABLED ADULT DEPENDENT STATUS WITH FIRE AND POLICE PENSION.**

Item was deferred until the next meeting, due to the unavailability of the presenter.

Some adults with disabilities may qualify as the dependents of fire and police for pension benefits, so it is important to know the policies and procedures. The presentation was to be by Janet Neal, Los Angeles County Commission on Disability.

DISPOSITION: ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY\*

**ITEM NO. (9): VETERANS HOMELESSNESS AND PROPOSITION 41**

President Bitonte distributed the memorandum sent to the Mayor's Office, in order to implement Motion 08062014-5E. Motion 08062014-5E requested that the Mayor and City Council to support the City of Los Angeles receiving one third of all monies available under the recently approved Proposition 41.

DISPOSITION: ACTION TAKEN

**ITEM 10: CALIFORNIA COORDINATED CARE INITIATIVE**

The Commission approved motion 11052014-A relative to studying the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) and its impact on people with disabilities. President Bitonte distributed the letter that he signed to act upon the motion. The letter was sent to the Center of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requesting any reports generated from a CMS contract to study the state demonstration projects.

DISPOSITION: ACTION TAKEN.

**ITEM NO. (11): FUND RAISING**

The Commission has not entertained the proposed motion. President Bitonte noted that further work must be done on fund raising, but the Commission is still looking to have a full-blown event in November 2016.

The Commission approved motion 12032014-C relative to the Commission on Disability establishing an Ad Hoc Committee from members of the Commission on Disability to research and coordinate efforts to raise resources to support the activities of the Commission on Disability and the Department on Disability.

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN.

**ITEM NO. (12): 2015 SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD SUMMER GAMES.**

A representative from the 2015 Special Olympics passed out her business cards for future contact.

The 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games will be held in Los Angeles from July 25<sup>th</sup> to August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Commission on Disability requested the Department on Disability to provide an update, in order for the Commission to explore avenues of participation.

The Department is working with Olympic coordinators to ensure that all venues are accessible.

DISPOSITION: ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY\*

**ITEM NO. (13): DISCUSSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT.**

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, highlighted requested items for the new fiscal year budget.

- Request to fully fund the AIDS Prevention Program and to move any proposed funds from the Unappropriated Balance to the Department on Disability's operating budget.
- Request for two positions for the ADA Compliance Division. One position will address emergency management and public safety. The second position will address ADA Compliance issues associated with sidewalk repairs, which was recently settled in the case of Willets v. City of Los Angeles. The priority for sidewalk repairs will be focus on City facilities first. Additionally, provisions are being proposed to ensure that people with disabilities can petition that identified non-compliant sidewalks be placed on a higher priority.

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY\*

**ITEM NO. (14): PUBLIC COMMENT.**

DISPOSITION: DISCUSSION.

**ITEM NO. (15): NEW BUSINESS**

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY\*

**ITEM NO. (16): ANNOUNCEMENTS**

DISPOSITION: NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY\*

**ITEM NO. (17): ADJOURNMENT**

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 4:41 P.M.**

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Robert Bitonte, President                      DATE  
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

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Juliana Soto,                                              DATE  
DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY