



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

MINUTES

1:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 1, 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

Iran Hopkins

Richard Rothenberg

Alisa Schlesinger

Robert Williams

Betty Wilson

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

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:

GUESTS:

Janet Neal, County COD

* 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 1:19 P.M. Roll call was conducted and a quorum of the commissioners was present.

Action Taken: Roll call.

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

Action Taken: Commission did not approved the June 2015 meeting minutes. Commissioners approved to revise June 3, 2015 minutes to include the action or recommendation that was taken for the items.

ITEM NO. (3): PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC COMMENTARY RECEIVED – FOR ANNOUNCEMENT PURPOSES ONLY*

Public comments were granted.

Action Taken: Neal Richman from Systems Change Advocate of Westside Center for Independent Living requested that Senate Bill 29 and Senate Bill 11 be added to the agenda for next month's meeting.

ITEM NO. (4) PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING FOR DISABLED ADULT DEPENDENT STATUS WITH FIRE AND POLICE PENSION.

Some adults with disabilities may qualify as the dependents of fire and police for pension benefits, according to Janet Neal, Los Angeles County Commission on Disability. Department on Disability will determine whether further research is needed on this topic.

NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

ITEM NO. (5): PROPOSED CONSOLIDATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS.

In January 2015, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted to consolidate three county departments. The consolidation merges the departments of public health, and mental health with the Department of Health Services. Tony Abraham, Department on Disability, presented outline of proposal and has scheduled the Office of Health Integration to present at the next COD meeting.

Action Taken: Item to be put on the next agenda for the next meeting. The Office of Health Integration has been invited to present at the next COD meeting, in order to give more background and discuss its the 60 page report titled "Response to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Regarding Possible Creation of a Health Agency."

ITEM NO. (6): COMPLAINT SYSTEM FOR LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES

Luis Mata, Department on Disability, presented basic information. Residents of Los Angeles City and County occupy some 75,000 beds in long-term care facilities. Current and former residents of these facilities may have complaints about the care provided. The staff of the Department on Disability will provide some information about the complaint system, while scheduling for next month's COD meeting the presence of representatives from the WISE & Healthy Aging Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, which serve as advocates for the residents occupying long-term care facilities.

Action Taken: Give the phone number for residents or family members who wish to file a complaint the statewide crisis line upon their admission to such a facility and seek support from all stakeholders on that position.

ITEM NO. (7) INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 190).

MOTION 07012015-7 relative to recommending to the Mayor and City Council to support Senate Bill 190 (SB 190), which requires insurance carriers to cover care in residential facilities for patients of an acquired traumatic brain injury and prevent cost shifting by insurance carriers to the public sector for undertreated disability. SB 190 preserves skilled nursing benefits under most plans and SB 190 will reduce or may prevent disease progression after traumatic brain injury such as Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, Multiple Sclerosis or Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

Action Taken: Put on the agenda for a vote at the next meeting, forward a copy of the bill to every commissioner to review, and the board is asking for a recommendation letter and City Council.

ITEM NO. (8): DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S DISABLED PARKING PLACARD POLICY.

Discussion on the Los Angeles Department of Transportation's "Disabled Parking Placard Policy."

Action Taken: Put on the agenda for next meeting for discussion and possible action.

ITEM NO. (9): VACCINATIONS (SENATE BILL 277).

To address the issue of vaccinations for school children and how it impacts those persons with disabilities, the Commission on Disability considered Senate Bill 277. The Commission approved a motion in support of the state legislation

Action Taken: Commission President recommended distributing the signed memorandum submitted to the Mayor's Office (Received and Filed).

ITEM NO. (10): STATE SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT (SSP)

Action Taken: Commission President recommended distributing the signed memorandum submitted to the Mayor's Office (Received and Filed).

ITEM NO. (11): ADA25 CELEBRATION.

The 25th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act will be celebrated by the City of Los Angeles on Saturday, July 11, 2015. Disability's staff will discuss the celebration's details at today's commission meeting.

NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

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

The 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games will be held in Los Angeles from July 25th to August 2nd. Angela Kaufman, Department on Disability, will discuss the status of accessibility for this event. DOD staff discussed this topic.

NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

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

Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, highlighted concerns of the department.

Discussion covers Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, and other relevant issues. Presentation is by Stephen David Simon, Executive Director, DOD.

NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

ITEM NO. (15): NEW BUSINESS

Action Taken: To revisit the issue of Proposition 41 and put it on the agenda for next meeting. The issue of the broken sidewalks of city buildings and to hear from the Bureau of Engineering regarding the Willit's case for next meeting.

ITEM NO. (16): ANNOUNCEMENTS

NO ACTION TAKEN, INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY*

ITEM NO. (17):

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 3:47 P.M.

Robert Bitonte, President DATE
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

Juliana Soto, DATE
DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY