



COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

MINUTES

Wednesday, August 8, 2018, 1:00 P.M.

Department on Disability

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

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Betty Wilson (excused)
Richard Rothenberg (excused)

DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY:

Peter Soto, Management Analyst, Department on Disability

Chris Lee, City Attorney Office

OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS:

GUESTS:

Los Angeles Community College District, Andra Hoffman, Vice President, Board of Trustees.

Mission College, Larry Resendez, Dean of Student Services & Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSPS).

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

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California State University Northridge, Joaquin Martinez, Assistant Director, Disability Resources and Educational Services.

California State University, Northridge, Jonathan Clayden, Director Graduate and Professional Education Programs and Services

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 when roll call was conducted.

Action Taken: The Commission approved the July 11, 2018, meeting minutes.

ITEM NO. (2): PUBLIC COMMENT

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (3): PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON DISABILITY AND EDUCATION

- I. Los Angeles Community College District, Andra Hoffman, Vice President, Board of Trustees, The Los Angeles Community College District covers about 9 hundred square miles, have about two hundred and fifty thousand students, and about 10 thousand students with a disability. Their mission is to provide equal opportunity and inclusive programs and services for all students and faculty. One programs that the Los Angeles Community College District has is the LA's College Promise and California's College Promise, in which a full-time and part-time disabled student can get their tuition covered for their first year of college.

- II. Mission College, Larry Resendez, Dean of Student Services & Disabled Students Programs & Services (DSPS). DSPS's mission is to support students with disabilities with their educational achievement, retention, success in higher learning and in career goals throughout their campus life. At Mission College, students with learning disabilities or cognitive

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disabilities are able to work remotely to set up an academic plan that looks at educational barriers or limitations. At Southwest Community College, an area with a lot of veterans, students with as PTSD, traumatic brain injury, and physical disabilities, set up that tailored plan that fits their needs through an interactive dialogue. At Glendale College, there's a program to helps students with autism to earn certificates in an area of interest and have great success of getting those students with autism into great jobs. In general, accommodations can be secured for additional time on a test, taking a test in a distraction free place, provide specific counseling services, and software that allows students to have information read to them or highlighted for them so to see themes and notes. They also provide linkage to financial aid, resources, book vouchers, food vouchers, and case managers.

- III. California State University Northridge, Joaquin Marinez, Assistant Director, Disability Resources and Educational Services. The Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) is guided by the belief that each individual has strengths, abilities and talents. DRES furthers the vision of an inclusive society that supports the attainment of academic, professional, and personal goals for persons of all abilities through student services, trainings and education programs. They have a liaison for different departments that can establish a relationship when issues arise and can work through issues through someone specifically. Some of the accommodations that are also provided is having a note taker, having audio recording of documents, provide ergonomic equipment, and registration assistance. They also have a transitional program where they offer peer mentoring, where students can work one on one with an academic coach to build on academic skills to feel supported and teach them how to self-advocate. They also have technology consultation, where students meet with our tech specialist to work on or identify technology that they can use, such as study apps, online resources, or a software program to read back what's on

the screen by dictate and spell out word for word. They have two programs identifying internships and creating resumes to better equipped students finding employment.

- IV. California State University, Northridge (CSUN), Jonathan Clayden, Director Graduate and Professional Education Programs and Services. CSUN is at the center of disabilities and put on one of the largest international conferences about assistive technology in the world. They have a Master of Science in Assistive Technology Studies and Human Services Program to meet the growing demand for skilled AT specialists, who can assess, train, and empower those using assistive technology in their daily lives. It is a two-year program that is fully online and accessible that is focused on moving forward and enhancing access to education and a work place setting for individuals with disabilities. The program is composed of classes on lifespan, assessment, and measures, emerging technology, and a conducting a long literature review or putting together a research program. Their alumni currently hold positions at John's Hopkins, State of Colorado for the Department of rehabilitation, hospitals, universities, State Farm as a HR specialist, and throughout Los Angeles Country.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

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

Discussion of items relating to Department activities, metrics, budget, planning, July Election, and/or other relevant issues. Presentation is by Peter Soto, Management Analyst, Department on Disability. The Department on Disability is working on the SLI, CART, and VRI contracts that will be posted before the end of August. DOD and DOT will meet with the Mayor's Office to working on reopening and implementing the Accessible Parking Zone. DOD would like to announce that on Saturday at the Los Angeles LGBT Center and DOD will be showing a "LIGHT IN THE WATER" which is a film that follows

the West Hollywood water polo club and their emergence in the 80's, and the actions that happened with the AIDS crisis at the time. Louis Burns gave a comment on emergency preparedness. Access helped during an emergency with th City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department during a power outage in Beverly Hills caused by of the 100-degree temperature. Access assisting transporting people to other areas as needed.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (5): 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 to be presented at the next meeting. Commissioner Williams requested that someone form the LAUSD Adult Education Division present at the next COD meeting.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only

ITEM NO. (5): DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL FOR UPCOMING TOPIC CALENDAR

Review, discuss, and approve future topic calendar. Commissioner Bitonte requested that the organizers that run the summer events for Muscle Beach to present access to their events from the disability community and any obstacles the COD can help with creating other disability divisions for their summer events. Commissioner Wolf proposed to cancel the COD meeting for the month of December and will be discussed at the COD retreat in October. Any suggestion for the upcoming COD retreat will be emailed to Peter Soto. The action is tabled for next COD meeting.

No Action Taken, Information Purposes Only.

ITEM NO. (6): Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 2:24 P.M.