



Commission on Disability DRAFT Minutes re November 8, 2023 Meeting

Preliminary Matters

1. Call to order at 5:06pm
2. Land acknowledgment read recognizing Berkeley as the ancestral, unceded home of the Ohlone People.
3. Roll Call
Present: Chair Fischer, Commissioner Pugh, Commissioner Sun, and Commissioner Lewkowicz.
On a Leave of Absence: Vice-Chair Walsh.
Staff present: Thomas Gregory and a staff member, whose name I did not catch, from CM Hahn's office.
Public present: Rani Cochran (a member of Commission on Aging), Kelly Hammargren, Anthony Tusler (presenter), and Anonymous.
4. Public Comments: no public comments regarding matters not on tonight's agenda.
5. Approval of draft minutes for October 11, 2023 meeting
"...to approve the October 11 meeting's minutes as drafted."
Moved by: Commissioner Pugh; seconded by: Commissioner Lewkowicz.
Yeas: unanimous; nays: none.
Motion passes.
6. Approval and Order of Agenda
"...to amend the agenda as follows: move items 16 and 17 to immediately precede item 14, and move items 8 through 13 to the end of the agenda."
Moved by: Chair Fischer; seconded by: Commissioner Lewkowicz.
Yeas: unanimous; nays: none.
Motion passes.

Presentation

7. Presentation/discussion regarding Sonoma County's visitability resolution, Petaluma's visitability ordinance, and the strategies, advocacy, and processes that led to their establishment.

Staff Updates

8. 2023 Log of Access Complaints discussed.
9. Commissioners attention called to recent email and voicemail messages to CoD from constituents.
10. ADA Coordinator Certification & Training Program (ACTCP): City's ADA Program Coordinator became ACTCP-certified in October.

11. CA law on “daylighting” briefly outlined. There was a consensus among Commissioners present that CoD would like Public Work’s Supervising Traffic Engineer to present to CoD in early 2024 regarding how the City will comply with this new state law in a manner that does not negatively impact the availability of accessible on-street parking in Berkeley.
12. ADA Transition Plan was submitted to Caltrans by 10/31/23 due date.
13. ADA Program Coordinator will be on vacation for the five business days prior to Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Reports/Announcements

Various announcements from Commissioners.

Discussion/Action Items

14. Consensus among Commissioners that CoD’s April 2024 meeting will need to be rescheduled if it conflicts with the observance of next year’s Eid holiday.
15. Commissioners discussed Work Plan development and the presentations/info that would likely enable CoD to advance its Work Plan priorities.
16. CM Hahn: access changes to public speaker set-up at Council meetings. There was consensus among Commissioners present that access enhancements re City processes are always welcome, that the enhancements CM Hahn contemplates should not need a resolution in order to take effect, and that Chair Fisher’s 10/13/23 email to CM Hahn reflected CoD’s position re this matter.
17. CM Robinson: permitting bicycles on sidewalks. There was a consensus among Commissioners present that the proposed ordinance that would allow people of any age to ride bicycles on Berkeley’s sidewalks is a very bad idea and that it would, if implemented, very much threaten the safety of pedestrians, especially pedestrians with disabilities.

Commissioners adjourned at 7:28pm.

Minutes Approved by CoD vote on:

Thomas Gregory, Secretary to the Commission on Disability