

UNAPPROVED
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
MEETING MINUTES OF
April 23, 2012

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 P.M.

Present: Chair Lord-Hausman, Vice-Chair Harp, Commissioners Deutsch, Kirola, Tam, and Warren.

Absent: Commissioners Krongold, Moore, Fort

2. MINUTES

2-A. The minutes were approved with changes.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/NON-AGENDA (PUBLIC COMMENT)

4. NEW BUSINESS

4-A. Universal Design – Housing Element (Andrew Thomas, Planning Services Manager)

Andrew Thomas stated that the Planning Department is working on updating the Housing Element including zoning requirements, housing development, and construction by making sure land is available for such construction. With respect to Universal Design (UD), Mr. Thomas stated the UD is not included in the first phase of the update the Housing Element. These changes would modify the current Municipal Code.

Chair Lord-Hausman asked about the timeline to which Mr. Thomas replied that the initial draft will go to Council in late June.

Mr. Thomas stated that having a Universal Design ordinance is not State mandated to be adapted by 2014. There are no obligations for inclusion of this language in the update of the Housing Element. Mr. Thomas encouraged the CDI to begin working on proposed language and to collaborate with the PB.

Commissioner Tam thanked Mr. Thomas for his presentation and inclusion of the CDI in the process.

4-B. CDI Restructuring – (Alex Nguyen, Deputy City Manger)

Deputy City Manager, Alex Nguyen, discussed re-structuring the various Boards and Commissions. There are questions about the CDI doing actual Commission work; and suggested consideration of having 4-designated seats of the CDI on Planning Board, Park & Recreation, Transportation, and SSHRB, which would be phased in.

Commissioner Kirola spoke about her personal experiences and the fact that the CDI has a significant role in the community.

Chair Lord-Hausman stated that the CDI has provided feedback to Public Works, developers regarding some infrastructure improvements, as well as the Development Department. As a collective voice, the CDI has a stronger voice.

Vice-Chair Harp stated the CDI has interacted with other departments and Boards on various issues.

Chair Lord-Hausman stated that clarification should be made regarding the duties of the CDI.

Commissioner Tam stated that the CDI represents many levels of disability. The CDI tries to remedy problems before they become an issue. The CDI is the voice of the “silent” issues.

Chair Lord-Hausman stated the CDI and Secretary Akil provides a link to the community.

Mr. Nguyen stated that the Council will require an Annual Action Plan starting 2013.

Vice Chair Harp stated the CDI has had an Action Plan over the years.

Commissioner Tam stated that there is a perception that the CDI is an activity-based commission.

Secretary Akil stated that there would always be an Accessibility website link.

Commissioner Warren asked about the possibility of having both seats on other city commissions and a smaller Commission to which Mr. Nguyen stated it is not out of the realm of possibility but would have to be further evaluated.

Secretary Akil stated the CDI under a dual option would have to be careful about not overstepping its role and following the Bylaws set forth by the City.

4-C. Report Out - Wilma Chan’s State Budget Meeting – (Vice Chair Harp)

Vice-Chair Harp stated it was organized by Wilma Chan and it was a well attended event. There are many threatened State cuts under the proposed budget that would affect the disability and care services arenas.

5. OLD BUSINESS

5-A. Goals and Objectives 2012 (Chair Lord-Hausman)

- Chair Lord-Hausman made a Universal Design presentation to the Mastick Senior Center Board to encourage collaboration between the two. A Mastick member volunteered to be the liaison and work with CDI, reporting back to Mastick's Board.
- Chair Lord-Hausman will contact Alameda Theatre regarding audio hearing.
- Jack Kapon / Housing Development Project: Chair Lord-Hausman contacted Debbie Potter regarding being a catalyst with APD for sensitivity training regarding incidents with persons with disabilities.
- Monthly Recognition: Commissioner Warren has done some research and will provide more info.
- Chair Lord-Hausman also stated that the monthly recognition events could be posted to the City website
- Universal Design – The Work Group: Chair Lord-Hausman, Vice-chair Harp, Commissioner Deustche volunteered.

5-B. City Council Meeting Report (Commissioner Fort):

None.

5-C. Planning Board Meeting Report (Chair Lord-Hausman):

Chair Lord-Hausman stated that the Housing Element meeting will be May 29th and both she and Vice-Chair Harp will attend.

6. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

None.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

7-A. Park Street/Alameda Avenue ADA compliance curb cuts have been completed after three years of advocacy by the CDI.

7-B. Meet your Public Officials sponsored by League of Women Voters – May 3rd at the Elks Lodge and no fee is charged to CDI members.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucretia Akil
Board Secretary