

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Vice-Chair Arnold Brillinger: Hello and welcome to the June 14th meeting of this Commission for Disability Issues. Kerry, could you please call roll?

1. ROLL CALL

Kerry Parker: I'd be happy to. Chair Kenny. Vice-Chair Brillinger?

Arnold Brillinger: Here.

Kerry Parker: Commissioner Aghapekian?

Anto Aghapekian: Here.

Kerry Parker: Commissioner Deutsch?

Susan Deutsch: Here.

Kerry Parker: Commissioner Franco? Commissioner Hall?

Lisa Hall: Here.

Kerry Parker: Commissioner Lewis?

Tony Lewis: Here.

Kerry Parker: Commissioner Linton? And Commissioner Tsztoo? We have five, we have a quorum.

2. MINUTES

2-A Approval of the Chair's Notes for the March 11, 2017 Retreat

Arnold Brillinger: Okay. So you received from Kerry the minutes. We have two sets of minutes to review and to approve. First, we'll take the minutes from our March 11th. Those are the notes from Beth on the meeting. Are there any corrections or additions? If not then I will entertain a motion.

Susan Deutsch: Second.

Arnold Brillinger: Okay, I didn't make the motion, I said I would entertain a motion.

Susan Deutsch: Oh. I thought you said you were making one. Well, I make a motion that we approve the minutes from our March 11th meeting.

Lisa Hall: And I'll second that.

Arnold Brillinger: All those in favor, say "Aye".

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

All: Aye.

2-B Approval of Minutes for the April 12, 2017 Meeting

Arnold Brillinger: Okay, then we have the minutes from the last meeting in April, are there any additions or corrections?

Arnold Brillinger: Then I'll entertain a motion to approve.

Susan Deutsch: I make a motion to approve the minutes from April 12th meeting.

Arnold Brillinger: Well, do we have a second?

Tony Lewis: Second.

Arnold Brillinger: We have a motion and a second to approve the minutes. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Arnold Brillinger: Any oral communications from the public? No speaker slips? Okay. Then we'll continue.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4-A Discussion of Progress of the Universal Design Ordinance (UDO) Subcommittee

Arnold Brillinger: Under new business, we have the UDO, the Universal Design Ordinance, and Audrey, and she's on this sub-committee from the CDI and the planning board, and we'll let her now take over.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: Thank you. I think it would be appropriate to start with Susan, as the current commissioner, since I'm no longer on the commission, but I am on the sub-committee, and to start the discussion, and then I'll participate.

Arnold Brillinger: Okay.

Susan Deutsch: So the Commission on Disabilities started a committee I think in about 2012 to work on universal design. And currently, we have a sub-committee that is made up of some of the commissioners, Anto, me, Beth and Audrey (a former commissioner) are still on that sub-committee, and two planning board members, David Burton and Sandy Sullivan, along with Andrew Thomas and Arnold. And we've all been meeting periodically to discuss Universal Design Ordinance. Currently. We received a letter from the Builders Association which listed a variety of challenges. And some of those challenges are the 100% visitability, which they say will add cost, particularly to the town homes, in which the design is very narrow. And so it will raise the cost because it'll be hard to get everything on the ground floor. The other challenge is the 30% new construction for universal design. So these are some challenges that we can discuss and see what we want to negotiate about. I think we have made a lot of progress on our sub-committee meetings and I think we do need to remain

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

collaborative with them, so I think it would be good for us to talk about what we're willing to negotiate about.

Susan Deutsch: In addition, Andrew Thomas wrote a letter back to the building commission supporting our ordinance and I think that... On the agenda, he really wrote a very nice letter in support of what we would like. And he indicated that Alameda is a flat city, and so we can have flat entry ways. That was something that the builders pushed back on us. But Andrew, I thought it was nice the way he pushed back on them. Next steps, there is a planning board meeting on June 26th, a workshop. And it's going to be a workshop on the Universal Design Ordinance on Monday, June 26th. Be great if we all went to that. We can support our ordinance and then there is also going to be a planning board meeting in July and we don't have a date on that, but since we don't have any other meetings till October that would be a meeting that we all need to attend. And Kerry will let us know when that meeting occurs.

Kerry Parker: July is a combined CDI and planning board meeting as we understand it now. Excuse me. We don't yet know when... But that's the plan to have the combined discuss this.

Susan Deutsch: So Audrey, do you have anything to add to where we currently are?

Audrey Lord-Hausman: Yes, we are light years of where we've been, and I think that the collaboration with the planning board and planning department has been terrific. One of the concerns from the building industry associations was that some of these things that we have included in the ordinance, they felt was going to add financial costs. We have requested an outline to give us an example, "What are some of those costs?" Provided a number of \$80,000 per house. Well, I want to know and the sub-committee wants to know, how is that made up? What does that consist of? So far, we have not received that. The other thing... And I'll read this to you because I think it says a lot about the work we've done. "If Alameda were to adopt the ordinance as drafted, it would be the most stringent, mandatory universal design regulation in the state of California." And those of us on the sub-committee said "Here, here." The implication being that we were just being too difficult, too stringent.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: So the costs are something that we're asking for, so we can get a sense of it. Also the visitability – they didn't seem to feel that a 100% was realistic. And it is true at this time, construction costs have skyrocketed, not only in the Bay Area but I think in many, many places. And there are developments that have been put on hold in some places because the original budget that was put together are now completely out of whack. The draft that was put together based on discussions with all of us and with the sub-committee have really covered everything that we have talked about. And I think the key thing is what do the builders really mean by costs, and to give us some idea of what we're talking about. Some of the things are permanent, are included, and as you all know, we have a list of things that can be asked for, and the buyer would pay for those. So I think there's a good balance of requirements mandatory versus available if you would like them.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: Another aspect of this and also written into the draft was that being too stringent would be a problem but as Andrew pointed out and we discussed the sub-committee there's a waiver process and that there will be times that the builder can ask and come before the proper organization here in the city, the planning board or the permit office and apply for a waiver and go through that process. So it's not as if they're just being blocked and written that into it. That's where we are at the moment. I know the sub-committee would like to hear from the CDI. Is there anything in this that you're willing to negotiate? When the planning board gets together for this upcoming

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

workshop, we don't know too much about the nature of it. But I agree with Susan we should be here, as many of us as we can. How are we going to finally bless this and take it to the planning board for it to be voted on? And then the goal by Andrew was hopefully to get it to city council in July. So now is the time to think about this and what's in it. And how do you feel about some of these challenges in terms of 100% visitability and certainly the rising costs that seems to be challenging everybody.

Arnold Brillinger: Yes.

JoanAnn Radu-Sinaiko: Hi my name is JoanAnn Radu-Sinaiko. I'm a citizen here in Alameda with dual disabilities. I am new. – not new to the discussion but new to where the committee is with this. What does 100% visitability mean?

Arnold Brillinger: Visitability is very important in universal design. First of all if you go to most of the homes, the new homes that are built here you will find that right at the front door there's a barrier about five inches tall. We can't figure out why it has to be five inches, why it can't be just an inch or two inches. But a wheelchair cannot go through it. So the first step in visitability is no barrier. The second item is you have to have a door that is wide enough to let someone come in. And it's not only for people in wheelchairs it's also for when you buy that home that costs \$1.5 million over here, the first thing you're going to do is say I'm not moving all of my old appliances over there, I'm going to go and buy some new ones.

Arnold Brillinger: So you go and order that giant refrigerator freezer with the fancy doors and the slide out shelves and everything. They bring it over the next day and they can't get it in the door. So there are a lot of reasons that we need wider doors. At least one wider door into the home and also accessibility throughout the inside to get around. And the third thing is a bathroom that can be used by a person in a wheelchair. To use it they have to be able to turn the wheelchair around in there and be able to close the door so that everyone doesn't have to watch you do your business. And so that's one of the things because too many places these days have these very small bathrooms in order to save space. So that's what visitability is.

Arnold Brillinger: And also we've included some other things in ours that there's at least one room where people can sit down. It could be a bedroom, it could be an office, it could be a whatever, so that the people don't have to visit in the bathroom. And also, we added that 100% of the homes have installed backings in the bathrooms and in the hallways for grab bars. And this is something that doesn't cost any more because you can use scrap lumber. It's cut off from building's other parts and put it at the right heights in the walls. And then when you need a grab bar connected just send someone down to Home Depot or wherever the grab bars are that you want. You just take them and then mount them right to the wall, you don't rip out the walls. So that's basically what the Visitability is. Visitability is a word that has the first three items in it all over the United States. It's no barriers, a wide entrance and also a bathroom that can be an accessible bathroom. Okay. Tony.

Tony Lewis: I had a question too. Does that also include the kitchen?

Arnold Brillinger: To be visitable? Well, if there is a kitchen on the first floor we need to have access into the kitchen through the doorways...

Arnold Brillinger: Because we do have in the UDOs that you have to be able to get around on the first floor at least. If there is no kitchen on the first floor then that wouldn't happen but... So does that answer your question?

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Tony Lewis: Yes. You just didn't mention kitchens.

Arnold Brillinger: Right. The problem is that these days, all the houses are three floors in the home or that's if they're a single residence, single unattached residences. And then in the other homes for example, if it's a lot of stacked housing. Look like apartments but they're condos and stuff like that, those would of course have the kitchen and everything on the same floor. Those are the easiest ones for them to provide visitability because it just automatically comes with the property. It has no barrier. They just need to make sure that they've got a wide enough door and the bathroom is accessible to someone in a wheelchair. Yes Audrey.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: Also in terms of visitability, let's say you're having something, a picnic, a barbecue in the backyard. We want an access whether it's a path alongside of the house that one can use to get back there and participate in the festivities. And of course as Arnold said, then you want a bathroom accessible for that person. But it's also setup and one of the goals of this is not only persons with disabilities but also persons with mobility challenges as we age. There are a lot of things that are very similar. And there's a very, very, strong, strong movement in Alameda to keep older people here and to age in place. Housing is scarce for that and so one of the challenges that we found in the sub-committee are town homes. Town homes are a very big deal in a town such as Alameda and we appreciate that.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: However, we're challenged by coming up and thinking out of the box and being creative. And if we are going to have a lot of town homes and we have some of the things that Arnold talked about on the lower floor where you can have an older person or a person in a wheelchair or walker come and you can gather and be downstairs and enjoy each other's company and still have a town home, two or three stories high. But in terms of reinforcing ahead of time, you can reinforce the walls where the stairs are or eventually maybe needing to put in a motorized chair to get somebody up the stairs. So we're really trying to think out of the box and to understand that due to the landscape of Alameda we do have some building challenges but, come on, let's think creatively how we can meet these needs. And if that would mean that maybe there'd only be one car garage instead of a two car garage so we could have these ground floor amenities then I would think that the commission would look at that as one of the strong questions.

Susan Deutsch: I just want to also make a comment that the definition of visitability on this staff, this draft of a hearing, joint meeting of the planning board and commission on disability issues is slightly different than how you described it and I'll just say it establishes standards to ensure that every new unit built in Alameda subject to this ordinance can be visited by a person with mobility issues, requires that a visitor can get to and through the front door, access a room in which to visit and a ground floor open space and use the bathroom with not having to negotiate stairs. The other bedroom's bathrooms the kitchen and all other spaces within the home maybe on the upper levels accessed by stairs. The definition of accessible entry provides flexibility to allow use of an alternate entry on to the ground floor, so it could be a back door. If the design of a new home includes a primary entry accessed by a raised front step or porch. So that's the definition that the city is currently using and I believe that's what was discussed in sub-committee.

Arnold Brillinger: Yes. So basically, what I said and what you read are the same thing.

Susan Deutsch: Yes.

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Tony Lewis: A little different.

Arnold Brillinger: But they talked about accessibility. No barrier, wide enough to get in and also bathroom and a room where you can visit.

Susan Deutsch: Yes.

Tony Lewis: I was wondering though, because it is a little different in how you described it, Arnold. The way you've talked about alternative entrance ways as opposed to making the main entrance way accessible. How do you feel about that?

Arnold Brillinger: Well, if there was a way to do that, we're finding that most houses don't have access to a back door if they don't have a backyard. So there are the waivers in this that are built in if some developer came in and said, "We can't do it that way but we can do it this way." There's always a chance to negotiate the various ideas.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: Yes, I think there's a difference between visitability and the Universal Design Ordinance which is different than visibility. That's the 30% that we're asking for.

Arnold Brillinger: And again, a 100% visitability, that's not someone necessary that lives there, it's someone that comes to visit.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: Right.

Arnold Brillinger: And so what do they need? They need to be able to get in after you've served them some iced tea or beer whatever it is, they need a place to use the bathroom and if they're going to come over and visit they need to visit in somewhere without everyone sitting on the bath tub and stuff.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: Yes.

Arnold Brillinger: Okay.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: Do other people have thoughts about where your mission to move in terms of challenges that we're experiencing right now?

Anto Aghapekian: I've said this before and I will repeat it. The resistance that we are getting is never going to go away. It's been going on since day one, since the '70s. Most of these numbers \$80,000, all these push backs that they have, it's nothing new, they've been doing this all along. And so we have to persist, we have to stand our ground and make our demands. I think that we're justified to make those demands. That's my position. I would like to go to the June the 26th planning workshop. What time is that?

Audrey Lord-Hausman: We don't know yet.

Anto Aghapekian: And I have a question that I've been thinking about. Most of the construction that's going to happen in Alameda is going to be at Alameda Point. There are some constructions that are going on right now, but they're mostly on a private transactions, developer buys the property from a private entity and they go ahead and they build. But the majority of the construction that's happening

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

is going to happen is at Alameda Point and Alameda Point is a public property. It's not a private property. To my understanding, it belongs to the city. And if the city is the owner of this property, don't we have the right to make a condition that whoever is developing these properties, they have to comply with this ordinance that we're working on. And I think that they're going to buy these properties... I mean sweet deals are going to go on. They're very valuable properties but then I'm certain that they're going to get a very good deal from the city to go ahead and develop these properties and I don't think that the developers are going to be losing any money on it even if they do spend so called \$80,000 per unit. So I would like to also approach our demands from that side - that we are the property owners and this is one of the condition of the sale.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: Well I think that when an ordinance is enacted, then that does become kind of the rule of the land if you will and then within it, you have an avenue for waivers if necessary. So then that is how all development will continue at that point. So that's why we feel part of this process. We're anxious to get it established and established well so it'd be fair to everybody. Then that is the process one would go through. So in effect, issues around that would have to come back to the planning board on any development like it does now. So it would then be foundational.

Arnold Brillinger: I'd like to add that on Monday, planning board was discussing a large chunk of property and the developers were saying, "Well, if we're going to do this, we want to raise the amount of residences on there from 300... " And now I'm going to have to make up these things because I don't have the exact numbers, "But we'd like to raise them from 350 up to about 450." And so we've got a lot of things to add to this. I was going to say, "Audrey, they can come back for the waivers to the planning board." but also I think the way that it's written in here and the CDI so that it need to get approval in both or at least input from both groups.

Susan Deutsch: It would be input from the CDI.

Arnold Brillinger: Right, it's input. But also I was going to say the planning board met on Monday. I didn't go, but I watched it online and the thing that I was there going, "Okay, when are you guys going to talk about visitability or UDO or anything that we've been talking about?" And Sandy, she's on the sub-committee. She brought up that thing. I started applauding. She said, "What about visitability in these units?" and so forth. So we do have and I think that we will find that the planning board will for the most part approve of this for the UDO and then we at the same meeting, we will have a meeting of us, the CDI and we will also bring that up and approve it as a group and then after that, that has sent off to the city council. Okay.

Susan Deutsch: So yes, it sounds like you are not willing to negotiate what we have proposed. You want to stick with what we have proposed. Because that's what it sounds like. I just want to be clear.

Anto Aghapekian: I am. As Audrey said, there is a lot of blabber but the only thing that's standing out is the \$80,000, that the developers said.

Susan Deutsch: Yes.

Anto Aghapekian: [Recording was very choppy, this is a summation] And we would like to know where this \$80,000 – if it is \$80,000 – or \$40,000 or whatever thousand, I still say we are the property owners, we own that property and we are going to sell it, or lease it (I don't know what kind of agreement the superintendent has) to developers and as the property owner I will stand my ground negotiating the use of our property.

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Arnold Brillinger: It is my impression that says probably a number that they just pulled out of the air.

Susan Deutsch: Yes, we don't know.

Arnold Brillinger: They wanted to give us a little scare.

Susan Deutsch: Will they bring, are they going to have the opportunity to outline what that means, \$80,000?

Arnold Brillinger: Oh, they will be there.

Susan Deutsch: We've asked for it.

Arnold Brillinger: We've asked for it to be broken down. Because right now it's just a number that's floating around there somewhere.

Susan Deutsch: I mean Sandy Sullivan specifically asked for the numbers.

Arnold Brillinger: She's sticking to her guns on that.

Susan Deutsch: And was the developer at this meeting?

Arnold Brillinger: No.

Susan Deutsch: No.

Susan Deutsch: And I think one thing that it's important to differentiate is that, some of the things in the ordinance that we have included are mandatory. And again others are, can be available. And reality there are some things I may want that someone else may not and so as a home buyer, if I know that the walls are reinforced already. If I know there are certain things that are already there. And as a home buyer I'm happy to go ahead and buy the grab bars and put them in. So it's not as if we're demanding that all these amenities physically are there. But we want the foundation to be there. Reinforced walls, wider doorways, those kinds of the things, accessible path. Tony, you mentioned whether it's the front door or not that is accessible?

Tony Lewis: No that was, quoting her...

Audrey Lord-Hausman: If the configuration of the building is such that the front door can't quite do it because of a step or grating, then we at least have a side entrance and door that can allow the person to come into the house. So again, it's being creative and working collaboratively with the developers and the architects and the designers to make this as accessible to everybody. I may want to have my aging mother come and live with me and she can't climb three steps... Or three stairs up. So I want the bottom floor which may now be my office, my sewing room or craft room. And we bring Mom in. There's a room there. We change it out, it's hers, the bathroom is accessible, the walls are reinforced, the door knobs. All those things are already there and prepared for someone who's aging in place. So, I think there's so many components of this that we need to be careful not to just focus in on one thing either on the developer side or the buyer side and lose sight of the flexibility

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

that we are trying to provide.

Arnold Brillinger: Plus, these houses are going to outlast us. So we're talking about building houses for the future. For people right now and for people in a couple hundred years. And so if during that time, chances are very good. Well, I would say 100% that each house will be visited at least once in its lifetime by a person that needs that. Not necessarily that the people will, that are living in there. But we know that they'll be visited by people who need that.

Susan Deutsch: And I just want to add in terms of universal design. That universal design is not just for people with disabilities or people who have mobility challenges, the universal design, purpose of it is for everyone. So, somebody that has a stroller, and can't get it up two flights of stairs to get to their living space, would might also want a ground floor that's accessible for them and their children so that they don't have to carry things up. So, I think we need to broaden how we're looking at universal design, because the builders are saying in their letter, that a lot of people aren't going to want to buy universally designed homes. But really people may want to buy universally designed homes if they have young children. So I think that's something that we need to promote also, about universal design. Just that, it's for everyone, and those homes will sell. People will want them.

Arnold Brillinger: Yes also, that should be a selling point.

Susan Deutsch: Yes.

Arnold Brillinger: To say, "Hey, this home is ready. It doesn't necessarily have the accessibility in the kitchen for the person in a wheelchair, but if someone were in a wheelchair, you could easily take the cabinets out, below the granite countertops, so if they can fit underneath the sink and wash their hands, and so that they can prepare stuff at the counters. So, if these things are stressed, when the people buy them, I think it should be a selling point. For example, when I went to see these homes over here, I wanted to know what kinds of things they had, as far as beauty of different things. They said, "Oh, well, we don't have any printed up right now. Wait, just a minute." He went to the copier, and he brought me a couple of sheets that were really kind of ugly. In our thing, we've also asked that they print up a brochure. A nice, slick brochure that look super, advertising these things that are available. They don't have to necessarily get them, but maybe they'd say, "Oh, this right here isn't going to cost that much more. I'd like to get these. Instead of getting doorknobs, I'd like to get the levers. Instead of getting the outlets way down by the ground, we're going to put them at a certain height, at least they've got to be up here. Or not way up towards the ceiling, but just so that they're accessible." Audrey, looks like you wanted to say something.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: No, I'm listening.

Arnold Brillinger: Okay. So, if in the universal design thing, we need to stress that this house is ready for anyone to use it. Just like the backing in the walls. I mean, this is just an obvious way. Everyone says, "Oh, yes. It doesn't cost a dime more to put those, put the backing in the walls at the right height when you're building the house. But later on if someone needs it and you rip out the walls to put the backing in that's going to be a major thing. "Oh, yes. It doesn't cost that much more, it only costs a few dollars more to get the wider entrance." But if you need the wider entrance later on down the line, there is a whole lot of reconstruction that goes on. A lot of cost and a lot of waste. Because when they rip out the old doorway and everything, it's going to the dumpster. That's not green. You know? It's not good stewardship with what we've been entrusted with here, and I think that's also one of the things. And we need to stress these things.

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Susan Deutsch: Does anybody else have any comments? About the Universal Design Ordinance? Because we are going to have a meeting in July.

Tony Lewis: Are we voting tonight on accepting?

Arnold Brillinger: No, no.

Susan Deutsch: No. No, we just want everyone to give their input.

Arnold Brillinger: We're going to vote on it sometime in July.

Susan Deutsch: Oh, okay.

Arnold Brillinger: Yes. No, we're not going to vote on it. We were just bringing this up to discuss it, to get everyone on board, see what it's all about. Lisa? Do you have any input on this?

Lisa Hall: I was just thinking that obviously, you guys worked very long and diligent on it, and looking hopeful that it will come to a fruition. I agree with Anto on at not making concessions because there's no reason - for the money for any of the reason. What you guys have put together so far is awesome. Continue all the way through.

Arnold Brillinger: And like Susan said this started maybe in 2012 which I think only Audrey and Susan were part of the CDI at the time, right? And it's gone up and down - the interest in it - and I think that it's at the point now where it needs to be done because those houses are going to be built or proposed to be built out there at the point. If we let this go for another four or five years, we won't need it. In five years or 10 whatever it is, it's going to be so built up we'll just say, "Well we missed the boat."

JoanAnn Radu-Sinaiko: Hi, it's JoanAnn again. I just am really eager to see this come to pass. In the '70s, if you look on Bay Farm Island, there's a lot of houses that have the French doors that open wide that are five and six feet wide. I don't understand how 36 or 24 inch doors even existed. A house that has a huge door opening feels like it's more inviting and I would encourage you to get together with some builders to pump up the reasons why it's a really good idea. The stroller is a really good idea, to take it away from the fact that it's about disability because people just roll their eyes because it's like, "Who needs that? We're young, we're vital, it's not going to be a problem."

JoanAnn Radu-Sinaiko: But to make it just so it's really important that that be available, period. And I like your idea about it. That this is the city's land and we have a right as owners to that to say if you want to build here or these are the conditions. And just keep it at that. But having big doorways. San Francisco had huge door, pocket doors. I've lived in lots of places and a lot of them had big doors and it was just a matter of the style. So it's not like you're asking for something that's not available. It's been a part of the trends at some point in the design process. So let's just introduce it back in. But to have a couple of builders brainstorm on more reasons why because you really want to be able to sell this. Those are good reasons but let's stack it full. Let's get it high so they can really get them to thinking that this is really important. Because if they're not going to have kids who needs a stroller, right. I'm not disabled. Who needs a wide door? Well, who else is going to be there? My brother's a builder so I'm actually going to brainstorm with him. I know Audrey and Kerry so I'll send you guys the ideas that he comes up with. Because there's got to be more than that for the reason why you have

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

those conditions. You want to be able to move in a house. You want it to feel open. You don't want it to feel closed in. That's my ideas. Thank you.

Arnold Brillinger: And as Audrey mentioned before, the whole thing of aging in place. I've talked to various people, I've got signs on my wheelchair "Some day they'll have visitability". And the three things plus the backing in the doors and an access to other parts of the house and young people stop me and say, "What is that?" And I explained it to them." In just a couple of minutes. "Oh you know I never thought about that." That's the problem with most of the people that are young people. They don't think about that. I didn't think about this until I'm now in a wheelchair permanently but when I first bought a place, I've had a townhouse with two floors, three steps up to the front porch and then the stairway up. My sister said, "Why did you buy this?" I said, "Well, what do you mean?" She says, "Well, it's got a stairway."

Arnold Brillinger: I said, "Watch, I can do this." And I ran up and down the stairs a couple of times. Now I know why she said that. And also when you were talking stairways, you were talking about the chair lifts and stuff like that. We also want them to make sure that there are outlets or access to electricity which would be outlets too at the bottom and the top of the stairs and also in the middle. That wouldn't be a bad thing. So that later on they could wire that in. But until that time, when you've got the vacuum cleaner, where are you going to plug it in, in the kitchen? No, plug it in at the bottom of the stairs, vacuum the stairs. So it doesn't have to be the mobility thing all the time. Okay. Any other questions or comments? Well thank you very much and we will let you know when the meeting is. It's very important that we all attend because we are going to have to approve the UDO ordinance to be sent onto the city council and we needed everyone to know what it's all about and their input is. Okay. Old business, that's comments by anybody right?

Susan Deutsch: [0:56:12] Yes.

Arnold Brillinger: Okay. Anyone have anything to report? Lisa?

Lisa Hall: Beth and I attended the Alameda Special Education Family Support Group Resource Fair on Saturday, May 6th and we had a table there along with many other groups and it was very well turned out. We spoke to other agencies including the Disability Rights of California group that was very informative and reached out to all disability commissions. They will support you and help you and so it was eye opening. They had different workshops and very much addressing all ages, especially the mental health issue which was an on-going issue for all ages. And the state director of special education, Christian Wright, showed a video of her daughter who was home schooled and in a wheelchair and did not speak. And it was very enlightening because she said you don't know what you don't know. As a parent, you do the best and eventually as their daughter started getting older, they let the reins out a little bit even though they were so concerned about her going to a semi regular school and integrating and yet she did wonderful and she blossomed and they themselves as parents couldn't believe how far she had come. And the very small changes that the school had to make for her, it was almost non-existent, because she just sort of fit right in there and eventually she lost the wheelchair and it was just very awesome and inspiring. So good work being done out there and raising awareness.

Arnold Brillinger: Susan.

Susan Deutsch: I don't have anything to report.

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Arnold Brillinger: Tony.

Tony Lewis: Yes. I think this was in partnership with Mastic and Victoria on the transportation issue with the shuttle and the taxi programs. I thought it was very good that when I and Arnold got to sit on different parts of that panel to observe the bids that came in for the taxi program. That's the MRTIP [Medical Return Trip Improvement Program] and the voucher program for people with doctor's appointments. It turns out that we only have one bid to review and that was our local person here in town, what was Welcome Transportation, morphed into something else now. And I think the way we left it was there were some changes that was wanted and to give it a try and it was a little surprising that nobody else did put in an extra bid. I think that outside folks might have. So it looks like we're going to go with Welcome Transportation as the vendor, with some changes in place.

Tony Lewis: And the approximate, I think they were \$66,000 available and they were going to get close to \$50,000, just to kind of see how the program went. And it was really good to have a conversation with the owner of Welcome, and outlining the concerns that public have raised about their interactions and what they're doing to help make their relationship better with users here, and especially people with disabilities. They're struggling because they have a lot of competition with Lyft and Uber. And so it's harder for them, for any taxi programs now with the competition. But they're putting things in place to really work towards catering to seniors and people with disabilities. And still, a lot of people don't use those services, the ride share programs. Anyway we'll see how that goes and there's a couple more meetings. Arnold will talk a little bit about that.

Arnold Brillinger: Anto.

Anto Aghapekian: I went to couple of the planning board meetings. And nothing that I can report that is connected to what we're doing. Nothing was discussed as far as the code is concerned. And there are a few things that I would like to do. One, I would like to invite a lady that is knowledgeable, we talked about this about two, three months ago. That is very knowledgeable in civil rights, the act that brought the ADA about. And I would like to have the commission invite her to talk to us for half an hour or so. I think that we can benefit from her knowledge quite a bit. I've heard her talk a couple of times. And another thing that I would like to do is invite the city, Alameda city's ADA Coordinator. According to the Justice Department, any city that has more than 50 city employees - they're supposed to have a ADA Coordinator. My understanding is that there is a person in that position. I would like to invite her, to come and spend 15 minutes, 20 minutes, tell us what she does. How we can work with her. There are things that we can work with her, and get ourselves coordinated with the coordinator. Those are the things I went through.

Arnold Brillinger: Okay, thank you. I've got several things and one is I went to the Mastic Resource Fair along with Beth. I was surprised how many different organizations were represented. And I think that it is one of the major things around here, because they draw a lot of seniors, obviously with Mastic. But this was from three to six, when Mastic is closed. So it wasn't just bringing the folks over from the other room into there. I would suggest that when we have the different events that we go ahead and keep on going to the disability ... What is that Lisa? The one you went to?

Lisa Hall: The resource fair that I went to?

Arnold Brillinger: Yes.

Lisa Hall: For the families... Special Education for the Families.

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Arnold Brillinger: Okay. And that we go to that one and we represented there because it's one thing, a short while, and several people can handle it. And then also that we continued to do the Mastic Resource Fair because it's only three hours long. And if nothing else, you will find out some interesting stuff yourself as you go around and see what else is there. Also, this year we're going to go to the Resource Fair with Emmanuel Lutheran on their 125th anniversary. So that's a onetime shot. That's just several hours on that and then as far as using the shuttle. I've been harping on that for quite a while, that we ought to use the shuttle. But that's not our baby, that's the Transportation [Commission]'s baby. So we should probably just keep on doing as we did last year, go to the Art & Wine festival, show a good representation, and do a good job with that one and let that be the thing. Then if we want to go to other things on our own, that's fine and dandy. And now Tony reminded me the thing with Mastic about the shuttle. We had, instead of just one company, we had six companies that were interested in running this shuttle for Alameda. And so we went through all these different proposals and looked at them, and we picked the top three and invited those people to come to the meeting and present their proposal to us.

Arnold Brillinger: One of the companies, they sent people from their headquarters in Texas. MV is nation wide. They sent theirs. There were also people from other companies that run shuttles and the group did find one that they said, "Okay, we'll go with this." We we're supposed to have a marketing meeting today. Again, I was all excited because I was going to have a lot of good things to tell you. But I got a call yesterday that said, "Something's not ready yet. We're not going to have it. We're going to have it next month, sometime in July." So I don't have any exciting things to tell you on that, other than what you already know is that they're planning on running two vehicles each day every half hour instead of every hour on their routes. So those are the things that I wanted to share.

Arnold Brillinger: Okay.

Kerry Parker: All right.

5. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Arnold Brillinger: Staff communications, Kerry.

Kerry Parker: Staff communications. Here I am. I know I've been in a different seat for the night, and it was to help facilitate your discussion on the Universal Design Ordinance, so I thought it went well. I think that we know that for future meetings. I have a couple of items, and many of them were already mentioned. The Universal Design Ordinance: the Planning Board wants to have a workshop at the June 26th meeting. I believe that's at 7:00 PM, but it might be at 6:30. I cannot remember when they're meeting.

Arnold Brillinger: They meet at 7:00.

Kerry Parker: I think it's 7:00. Okay.

Arnold Brillinger: Yes.

Kerry Parker: 7:00 PM, I will send you all an invite to that. Also, it's a Sunshine Ordinance thing. Basically I want you to know that it's happening. I will have their agenda forwarded to me and then I will forward it on to and to the list serve or the CDI. And then, the special joint meeting that has been

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

mentioned in July. We don't know when that will be. It will be on a Monday, that's for sure. And I would imagine that they would open with the Universal Design Ordinance as the first agenda item. So they will call roll for the planning board. They'll call roll for us, or I will call roll for you, or someone will and then they will start. There will be a vote, and then they will probably adjourn that special meeting. The CDI would leave at that point or you could sit in the audience, it wouldn't matter. And then they will go on with their regular meeting because they will probably have other items. So that will be it. That's basically how it goes at their board meetings.

Kerry Parker: So then in addition to that, in August you know that what would normally be a regularly scheduled meeting, council chambers is dark in August, so we will not have that meeting. So our next regularly scheduled meeting is in October as has been mentioned earlier. Also in October, Public Works intends to bring up the name change as a council meeting item so that the council can approve your name change that you approved at your last meeting in April. So that should be lovely. Also the acceptance for the proclamation for October is Disability Awareness Month, so that should be... I'm angling towards October 3rd - Tuesday, October 3rd - at that council meeting for those items, and then we will have our regularly scheduled meeting on October 11th. Okay, so that's how that looks - about eight days later. And then the third item that I had was the Art & Wine Fair, as Arnold had mentioned. That's in the last weekend in July and I don't have a calendar in front of me, unfortunately, but I believe that's 29th and 30th.

Lisa Hall: Yes, 29th and 30th. Yes.

Kerry Parker: And I've already spoken with the executive director of the Downtown Alameda Business Association which is the Park Street, formerly known as Park Street Business Association. And they have already discussed that they will set aside a table for us so that is already in the works. It's not going to be in the same place as last time. They have a different set up this year because of fire regulations.

Lisa Hall: Can I say something on that?

Kerry Parker: Yes.

Lisa Hall: Okay. So Arnold, Jen, Beth and I discuss the fair, and so the four of us have made a commitment to be there, to do this. And what we want to look at is at noon to 6:00 for both days, and we would have two shifts of three hours for each person. And between the four of us and then anybody else that wants to also help that we can split it up.

Arnold Brillinger: Definitely we want others - the rest of the CDI to come.

Lisa Hall: Right.

Arnold Brillinger: And, also, to say that I'll be responsible for such and such a time on one or both days.

Lisa Hall: We'll coordinate our times, but we've got the commitment there for sure.

Kerry Parker: Excellent. So I think that that is fine. And, as you know I also have a lot of materials at my desk for you guys to hand out so we can coordinate that sometime beforehand. But that sounds perfect.

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Tony Lewis: You know where the table might be?

Kerry Parker: I don't have any idea, actually. It's with a group of other - they're calling us a non-profit tables - I don't know what that means. And I ask them if there was shade at those tables and they weren't certain and I said, "Well, I have umbrellas and umbrella stands if that's what it came to."

Tony Lewis: I think the last fair was at the...

Kerry Parker: We were in front of Subpar.

Tony Lewis: Yes, I mean, but the May fair, the recent one. There were no tables on the sidewalks...

Kerry Parker: Exactly, so that's what I was trying to mention before that fire regulation has required them to change the format of the fair so that essentially a fire truck can go down the middle of the street if necessary for any emergency vehicles. So that that's what's at play right now. And so we will just take whatever table it is that they advise we should have. I'm trying to, of course, lobby for a lovely one under a tree or something like that. I've heard your suggestions for inviting the ADA coordinator. I am going to see what I can do on that, one way or the other. Anto if you would like me to invite someone to the October meeting, let's say, let's talk offline about who that is and making that contact. And while I was sitting over here, I was also remembering that last year many of you went to the Pacific ADA conference, which was a two day conference I believe, on a weekend maybe in July. And we are not booked for that yet so far, and I have not heard anything about it. If anybody has any information on that, go ahead and email me about it and we will set that up.

Arnold Brillinger: Okay.

Anto Aghapekian: [Unable to hear clearly.] Plus the contents of the lectures. Also, about what they're doing, and what the resources are there. They're good. I thought they're very productive.

Kerry Parker: I heard a lot of positive feedback from you all about that last year so I think absolutely we should send you again if you want to go. So that's purely elective but we do have some funds for conference attendance.

Anto Aghapekian: Where is it?

Kerry Parker: It's in San Francisco, right?

Susan Deutsch: Yes, definitely.

Kerry Parker: Yes. Okay.

Tony Lewis: Kerry, one more thing to... Remember, last year I had mentioned, in addition to the Disability Month, the White Cane Day proclamation, starting out of Veterans Administration and recognized in most cities. And I just wanted to be sure that we do that for the 15th of October.

Kerry Parker: 15th of October. You know what I keep imagining is that we could incorporate it into the larger Disability Awareness Month proclamation.

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Tony Lewis: They're two separate things.

Kerry Parker: They are two separate things and... Let me see what I can do. We mentioned that at the last meeting.

Tony Lewis: I sent you a sample proclamation I think last year.

Kerry Parker: Yes. Let me see what I can do. Scheduling proclamations is something that I have to do with city staff, and so, let me see what else is happening in October. We might be able to have a proclamation of White Cane day, as well as October being Disability Awareness Month, and have both happen on that same night, and perhaps you would accept that proclamation.

Tony Lewis: And what is it?

Kerry Parker: From the Mayor, that's what I would really like. You're a commissioner...

Tony Lewis: No, I don't need to do that. But it's something that most cities do - they publish it in the local paper or website, or whatever it is.

Kerry Parker: Well, and we could do one of those other things too, and perhaps we put it on the website instead. Why don't you let me know what you'd really like to do? We can do that offline, and make something happen because I think that's a great idea. October is the month for this commission, as far as I see it. I think we've got some leeway there. Okay.

Arnold Brillinger: Thank you. I want to thank Kerry. She is so helpful to us, and I just want everyone to know how much I appreciate you. And I think it's... I see people shaking their heads, yes, in agreement. I think it's probably unanimous.

Lisa Hall: I second that.

Tony Lewis: There you go.

[laughter]

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Arnold Brillinger: Thank you. Yes, because she does a lot for us. Okay, there's announcements. Anyone have any announcements?

Lisa Hall: A reminder, the Center for Independent Living that is opening - well has opened - at Mariner Square. They're going to have their open house I believe the...

Arnold Brillinger: 24th?

Lisa Hall: 24th, 25th? I don't know the exact date, but that weekend, and I've had a few clients that come to the Food Bank - a gentleman that was in a wheelchair that was just thrilled that when I told him that they have a new location here in Alameda because he apparently has gone to Berkeley. So he was quite happy about it. But, yes, just to let people know about the open house.

ITEM 2-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF
Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:30 p.m.

Tony Lewis: You know where it is? Where the center is?

Lisa Hall: Yes, it's at Mariner Square Loop, and I had it written down somewhere. You know the College of Alameda, the science building? It's right there on the loop, but I'm sorry I don't have the suite number. I wrote it on my other thing that I gave the gentleman.

Arnold Brillinger: Okay, Kerry is going to mail it or to distribute it to all of us. And Tony, it's quite a walk from the street. There are three major buildings in that area and it goes right after it. It was announced to us at the last meeting that they were going to be there. I said, "Woah, I want to go and check it out." So I went and because I'm all over Alameda in my wheelchair.

Tony Lewis: Is that the one of the shuttle loop, Arnold?

Arnold Brillinger: Well, it isn't at the moment. It will be, but we're trying to figure out how to get it close to the building. Like I said, it's quite a ways to walk.

Arnold Brillinger: Audrey, thank you very much for coming in. I know that Beth asked you to come and help with the presentation for the UDOs. Thank you very much. We're always glad to see you, and... Okay, any other announcements? If not then we'll adjourn.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Kozisek
City Staff Liaison
Commission on Disability Issues