

ITEM 2-B
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING ON
Tuesday, July 25, 2017 6:30 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL**

This was not recorded on the video. Those present at the roll call at 6:32 p.m. were:

Chair Elizabeth (Beth) Kenny
Vice-Chair Arnold Brillinger
Anto Aghapekian
Tom Mills
Lisa Hall
Jenn Barrett
Susan Deutsch

Quorum established.

Additional commissioners arriving soon after roll call:

Tony Lewis (arrived 6:35 p.m.)
Jenny Linton (arrived 6:45 p.m.)

2. **MINUTES**

Elizabeth Kenny: Item number two; minutes?

Kerry Parker: There will be no approval of minutes tonight. The minutes from the June meeting will be presented in October for approval. And the minutes from tonight's meeting will be submitted in October for approval.

3. **ORAL COMMUNICAITONS**

Elizabeth Kenny: Wonderful. Moving on, item three; Oral Communication/Non-Agenda Items. Do we have any public comments tonight?

Kerry Parker: I have not received any speaker slips.

Elizabeth Kenny: Alright.

Elizabeth Kenny: There's no speaker slips out there.

Kerry Parker: Oh, oh no... Would you like one?

Elizabeth Kenny: Okay, he is going to speak on video. Yes, I'm just making sure.

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Kerry Parker: So, for non-agenda...

Speaker 3: Will be on the end.

Elizabeth Kenny: Okay.

Kerry Parker: Okay.

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

Elizabeth Kenny: Alright. Let's move on to new business.

Kerry Parker: I don't think we have any new business for tonight.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

CDI Universal Design Staff Report

Elizabeth Kenny: And old business. First, we have Andrew Thomas, from the city planners to talk to us about the Universal Design Ordinance. Welcome Andrew.

Andrew Thomas: Good evening, Chair Barrett [sic], members of the commission. My name is Andrew Thomas, I'm the Assistant Community Development Director for the City of Alameda. I am very happy to be here tonight to present to you our final draft of the first ever City of Alameda Universal Design Ordinance. This has been a long time coming. We made a promise to the Alameda community, to the Alameda City Council, and to this commission. It was almost five years ago to the date; July 2012, that we are going to create, as a community, a draft Universal Design Ordinance for Alameda and we are going to get it to you, city council, for your consideration. Now, we were sort of thinking within a year or so.

Andrew Thomas: It's been five. And it would not even be here at all if it weren't for the efforts of this commission and some of your former commissioners, Audrey Lord-Hausman, to just keep pushing this issue. And then pushing it also not only with the community and with the staff but also with your Planning Board. And the City of Alameda Planning Board really embraced this idea five years ago, and was also pushing us and we have David Burton here from the Planning Board, former chair of the Planning Board who's also been very instrumental in getting this draft to this state. About three weeks ago, the Alameda Planning Board... Let me just back up for a minute. You then set up a sub-committee for the new members here. Your board in about a year, or so ago, identified a sub-committee to work with a sub-committee from the Planning Board to bring this over the finish line, and that sub-committee did just that. And the Planning Board, the full Planning Board, recommended this draft ordinance to the city council last month.

Andrew Thomas: This draft ordinance it is really the result of your work, your members, your constituents. And the Planning Board is going to city council with a recommendation from the Planning Board, and what I would like to get tonight from this board is your recommendation on

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this same ordinance. So that I can report to the city council that this ordinance is supported by the City of Alameda Planning Board and the City of Alameda Commission on Disability Issues. If things go well tonight I hope to have this on the agenda for September 20, I believe it's the second meeting in September. I believe it's September 29th or 24th. We'll let you know, but it'll be the second city council meeting in September. If we get there and things go well tonight, and we get there on September, I'd hope that some of you might think about coming to that meeting and help push this forward. This is an important ordinance and there's just a few things I'd like to highlight about this ordinance. So that if people ask you about this ordinance, and there will be people who'll start to ask as it tees up to council, it'll get more and more attention.

Andrew Thomas: It is a unique ordinance. It is unlike any ordinance that I know of that any other city in California has adopted. It sets a very high standard. What I have been telling people, and telling people in the business industry and elsewhere in California, because that worries people, they are like, "Oh my goodness, Alameda is setting a new standard." Some people look at that as a very positive thing. Other people in some industries will be like, "Oh gosh, we don't want a new standard that other cities will reflect." And what I have said to people is, "This is a very unique ordinance and it's unique to Alameda, and Alameda is a unique place." And it's not just all of you and the kinds of people who live in Alameda, our physical geography makes a lot of the things in this ordinance possible.

Andrew Thomas: City of Berkley couldn't adopt this ordinance, it's just too much topography. The city of San Francisco couldn't adopt this ordinance. We have the benefit of having geography, a flat island with not a lot of topography that makes a lot of this possible, allows us here in Alameda to set a high standard. It does set a high standard, and that makes some people nervous and the way I describe it is... Since 2012 your Planning Board, and this commission, and this community, has demanded that with every single project we discuss, negotiate, twist arms to try to get Universal Design into every project. And thanks to your Planning Commission you have. Each project's a little different, each negotiation goes a little bit differently, but the Planning Board here in Alameda has negotiated Universal Design elements into every single housing project that's been approved since July of 2012.

Andrew Thomas: What this ordinance does, it sets a new standard. And those conversations have always started at zero. The developer comes in, "What are your requirements?" And we give them all the city requirements and then we say, "Oh, and by the way." This is me downstairs at the permit center, "Oh, by the way there's one more thing we need to tell you about, Universal Design." And they're like, "Oh, where's the ordinance? What's the standards?". "Well, let's talk about that." And that's kind of how the conversation goes. City staff we push a certain amount of Universal Design into the project through various negotiation tactics and arm wrestling and threats. And then they get to the Planning Board and the Planning Board always makes it a little bit better. What we're doing with this ordinance is we're saying we're setting... Rather than starting at zero on every conversation, when you come in with a housing project in Alameda, we've set a standard, it's this high. Now you know what our standard is. If you can meet that standard, if you look at our standard and you say, "You know what I can do that in my project." That conversation's over, we're done! We don't have to debate it, you as a developer you don't have to have the uncertainty of not knowing.

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Andrew Thomas: The problem with the current system, the developer, the people who are investing in housing, and let's be honest, 90% of the housing built in California and in Alameda is built by private sector investors, they need to know. They need to know what's the cost. It's these last minute things, these things they don't know until the very, very end of the project that are the most damaging. So what we're saying is here, we'll tell you right now what it is, on day one, it's up here. But what we're also saying is we get it, each project's a little bit different. We get that this might be a very high standard. And we're not saying we won't have the conversation, we will have the conversation if you want to have a conversation with us and our Planning Commission you are more than welcome to. But we're starting here, you tell us what you cannot do with your project, and why you can't do it and let's have the Planning Board come up with some alternative ways to make the project as good as it can be. So we're not saying that these conversations go away entirely, but we're trying to set our new city standard. That's where the conversation starts.

Andrew Thomas: I think the other just thing that I'll point out about this, I'll let you ask any questions that you have and I won't try to go through every piece of this ordinance. But I think this ordinance does something that - I'll be honest with you - 20, 30 years of working and planning as planners we just didn't talk about it. We talk about Universal Design, we talk about ADA, we talk about access. This concept of visitability, your Commissioner Brillinger, really was the one who started pushing this. This concept of it's not just about where people with mobility issues can live, that's obviously an important issue. We as Alamedans we have friends with disability issues, they should be at least visit us in our homes and that's just a very powerful concept. When I think about what this ordinance does that's a concept that really comes out loud and clear in this ordinance and I do think you're going to start seeing other cities looking at this ordinance.

Andrew Thomas: They may not adopt this ordinance exactly the way it is, but they're going to pick a lot of the things that you all came up with and we've sort of crafted in this ordinance. And I think it will influence not only the way we build buildings here in Alameda but ultimately I think this ordinance is going to have an effect statewide, because what'll happen is other cities will start looking at this ordinance, they'll pick up pieces of it, they'll adopt sections of it and it's really going to move the ball forward here in California on this issue. With that I'm here to thank all of you, I'm here to thank Audrey and David, and everyone else who has worked on this. And staff is very proud and happy to be recommending it, not just to the Planning Commission and not just to this board but also ultimately to the city council. I'm available to answer any questions.

Elizabeth Kenny: Thank you very much. Now we will go around and if you have any questions about the Universal Design, it's your chance to ask them. And then we'll have public comment, and then we'll go around once more and you can make any comments that you want and then we'll take a vote. Let's start with you Commissioner Brillinger, Vice Chair Brillinger.

Arnold Brillinger: I'm not so sure that I have questions, but comments. I think that we need to remember that this is a plus. This is a plus for Alameda. This is a plus for the home builders, and a plus for the people who buy the homes. The builders need to make sure that their buyers understand that they've got something special. It's not just like the houses in the next city, in the next county. They have something special. They are accessible. They are visitable. And Andrew said something: I've been championing this. I've done it in front of the city council. I've done it in front of the

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Planning Board. I've done it out on the streets of Alameda. I've got signs on the back of my wheelchair and on the sides that talk about visitability. And I'm really glad to see that we are coming to the point where we can bring it to the city council, and where they can say, "Okay, you guys did a good job, and we're ready to take it on."

Elizabeth Kenny: Great. Thank you Commissioner Brillinger. Commissioner Lewis, do you have any questions or comments?

Tony Lewis: No. I would just echo what Arnold had said. And also a long time for Alameda. I think it's great that we're doing this. We have a large population that are getting older that will really benefit from. I do hope that... My gut feeling is that there's going to be a lot of developers that aren't going to be very pleased because the cost and better I've not seen but I'm happy for the ones that will adopt it, or are willing to go along with developing.

Elizabeth Kenny: Thank you, Commissioner Lewis. Commissioner Deutsch, who was one of the people working on this five years ago.

Susan Deutsch: Well, I don't have any questions. I just want to say that I'm very pleased that we're at this point after five years working on this and I'm really looking forward to something positive happening.

Elizabeth Kenny: Great. Thank you. Commissioner Barrett?

Jen Barrett: Hi, all. Thank you so much for that presentation. Just so you know my background, I worked for two and a half years as an accessibility consultant in the New York City area, and around the US. So I'm involved with a lot of the laws and enforcement, as well as for Universal Design for a few clients. I just had one question in 18.4 b, Section 2. It's talking about the requirements for the 30% of the new residential units, in developments of five or more. California building code, correct me if I'm wrong, is 10% of multistory dwelling units are covered. So that's what the state requires. The Fair Housing Act does not apply to this if it's a multistory dwelling unit. My question is, for that section it's talking about accessible bathroom, accessible common use area, accessible bedroom, kitchen, common area and laundry would have to be on an accessible route. So that means that everything in that multistory unit would have to be on the first floor.

Andrew Thomas: Right.

Jen Barrett: Okay.

Andrew Thomas: For example, let's say a developer is building single-family homes, detached. They can meet the 30% requirement with this by having all of the main features of the room of the house on the ground floor. That doesn't mean they can't have bedrooms upstairs. They can have two, three stories above, all accessed by stairs, but on that ground floor you have to have the kitchen, living room, at least one bedroom, at least one accessible bathroom. Concept being, there's somebody who has mobility issues. They can live their life on that one floor. Kids can run up and down the stairs all day long. That was the idea.

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Jen Barrett: Great. Thanks.

Elizabeth Kenny: Thank you, Commissioner Barrett. Commissioner Hall?

Lisa Hall: Thank you Andrew, once again, for all your hard work. I just really want to say thank you to Susan, Andrew, and Audrey for their work the last five years that they've done. I know it's been a lot of hard work on your part, and I'm so happy to see it coming to fruition.

Elizabeth Kenny: Thank you. Commissioner Mills?

Tom Mills: Yes, how does this apply... I own my own house. I'm eventually going to be disabled, where I've already earthquake-proofed the basement, raised the house, but every time I've gone and applied to do some work underneath there I was stopped by a city council member of long ago. She's dead and gone. And I just wonder, if... I agree with 90% of what's in here. That's the only question.

Andrew Thomas: Yes, these are a set of regulations for new housing developments. So if it does not apply to existing home owners, who are coming in to remodel their kitchen or add a bedroom, they're exempt. Accessory dwelling units, which are now heavily regulated by the state are exempt. If you're just building a little cottage in your backyard. Although we think, actually the ones that we've approved when you actually look at the little floor plan or cottage in the backyard of an Alameda property it's actually very easy to make it accessible. But there's a number of things that are changing. This certainly won't get in your way of being able to modify your basement, and for different reasons with different ordinances, the Planning Board and the city council have recently adjusted a number of city regulations to which had making it very difficult for Alameda residents to convert basements to living space and things like that. So you should try again.

Tom Mills: The closeness of the houses, my neighbor's house is only 3 feet, 2 feet at the roof line. And it's been empty since Kerr passed away, and they want put four units in. Now there's been homeless people living in there. I'm like a cat on steroids all the time waiting for the place to go up in flames. And nobody's watching. Are they going to do something there?

Andrew Thomas: You should give our building official Greg McFann a call, I can get you hooked up, their code enforcement. I know of the property you're talking about. Laws in California make it difficult. There's a process but the idea that the city can just go in there and clean things up and everything has to go through the court system when you're dealing with a situation like this. It's a very slow, very tedious, very time consuming process. If somebody in the family or somebody in the ownership structure of the property doesn't take control and do it themselves, when the city has to step in and try to do the things it's brutally difficult.

Tom Mills: I had an issue with the CDC had come in and did a soil sample in the back of their yard, and it was not habitable for humans.

Andrew Thomas: I can get you hooked up with the right people who can answer your questions.

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Tom Mills: Yes, I'd appreciate that.

Andrew Thomas: Sure.

Tom Mills: I can't even go in my backyard.

Elizabeth Kenny: Thank you, Commissioner Mills. Commissioner Aghapekian.

Anto Aghapekian: I've been a latecomer, us two. But I have watched and listened and I know that, I get that, and I know all the orders and areas physicians. I'm very proud to say this. But I don't think that the matter is exciting or urgent as much as important. It will be a tough fight for council.

Andrew Thomas: First of all, thank you. I wanted to say again, this would not have happened if it weren't for members of this community, of this commission just taking this on. I guarantee you, staff alone could not have done it. We wouldn't have done it. It was this partnership that worked so well. And you're absolutely right. You watch sports, let's celebrate the little victory tonight, but the big game is in September. And then I think we also all need to take the attitude. We worked really hard. We have a good ordinance, it's ready to be adopted. Is it perfect? It may not be. We're going to start using it and let me tell you I've been writing ordinances and implementing ordinances my entire career. You can work and work and work and work to try to make it perfect.

Andrew Thomas: You'll find out in the first year what isn't working right and you know what, we just have to have the mindset. We're going to discover those little problems, and then we're going to fix them. Our second unit ordinance in Alameda, we've amended it 15 times. Needs change. Priorities change. Our parking ordinance we amend that like every four years, it's okay. But until we get this adopted, until we actually run it through, it's like a test drive on a car. We need to start using it, then we'll know what's not quite right and we'll fix it. I just think the battle's not over, I agree with you and we just have to take the attitude, this is just... It's a continuing process and we'll just keep getting better and better at it, but thank you.

Elizabeth Kenny: I want to say a couple of questions for you.

Andrew Thomas: Yes.

Elizabeth Kenny: First I want to say I love this. It's amazing how all the ideas that we had have been distilled into this. I have seen the different versions, and I'm really happy with this, and thank you for everything, and thank you Audrey, and David, and Arnold, and Anto. Thank you all for this. And Susan. Kelly Harp was a former commissioner, also worked on this too, and I want to put her name out there. I do have a couple of questions.

Andrew Thomas: Yes.

Elizabeth Kenny: In 18.5 Section c, under the list of features that can be substituted in. Under the number two, it says blocking with all the walls of the hallway. One thing that I really liked about

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this version is that I think that's covered under visitability because doesn't the visitability part of this say 100% you put the blocking in the walls?

Andrew Thomas: It's in visitability what we're saying is blocking the walls in all bathrooms.

Elizabeth Kenny: Okay.

Andrew Thomas: And so that's one of the little distinctions, we're saying, "Just bottom-line you want to meet our standard, we definitely want blocking in all bathrooms."

Elizabeth Kenny: Okay.

Andrew Thomas: But not necessarily hallways.

Elizabeth Kenny: The hallways, okay.

Andrew Thomas: You want to start trading something...

Elizabeth Kenny: Yes.

Andrew Thomas: Somebody says "Oh, we can't do quite 30%, we can do 29%." Alright. How about you do blocking in all the walls, in the hallways, and the bathrooms and suddenly they go, "Oh, well we can do that."

Andrew Thomas: But that was this idea of putting this list in. It really came from your commission. We're going to let people do waivers, let's give them a list of things that we would like in return and that's a really a nice idea.

Elizabeth Kenny: And then in that same section, number 5, accessible shower stalls in all bathrooms, I was just wondering if we could just say accessible shower stalls or tubs because they're making accessible tubs these days.

Andrew Thomas: If you have support of everyone else it's certainly from staff, we see no problem with that from staff's perspective.

Elizabeth Kenny: And yes, those were my two main questions. Thank you again. I am ecstatic about this. So as many of you know my wife is about to give birth and I feel like two births are coming this week.

Elizabeth Kenny: Yes. Commissioner Linton did you have any questions about this or should we move on to public comment?

Jenny Linton: Oh, no.

Elizabeth Kenny: Okay. First public comment is David Burton.

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David Burton: Thank you. David Burton. I'm a member of the Planning Board and was a member of the subcommittee that worked with the members here to help craft the ordinance. First wanted to thank subcommittee members who were at the meetings that I was certainly at. Commissioner Aghapekian, Commissioner Brillinger, Commissioner Deutsch, Commissioner Kenny. Thank you very much for all the work you put in. Your input was instrumental in making this ordinance better and better every time that we met. Special thanks to Audrey Lord-Hausman for her perseverance over the years, and being on the commission, and then even off the commission helping to get this put in place. Couldn't happen without her. I wanted to thank Andrew Thomas and the rest of the staff for putting in the time to make this happen. And wanted to extend the thanks John Knox White who's on the Planning Board with me, he wanted to be here tonight, he had a meeting in the city that wouldn't let him be here, but he wanted to extend his thanks also for all the work that you guys have done on this.

David Burton: You guys have taught me a lot, and I think you have taught the entire Planning Board a lot. There's been a great good bit of education that has gone on and it's invaluable and so thank you for doing that for us and for the community. I've been uncomfortable for a long time that we've been doing this, the Planning Board, on a kind of negotiation project by project basis and so just so happy to see us getting this put in place to set a very high standard, and to be able to have that as a tool to use with the builders and developers that come into town to build new housing. It's going to be an invaluable tool for us. It sets a very high standard, but it's a reasonable and flexible ordinance, because as we talked a lot about in our subcommittee meetings there's a ton of things that impact. Sites these days when people are doing multi-family housing. So I think we've built in good flexibility but we'll hold folks to a really high standard and we'll get some good results. So, congratulations to all of you. Congratulations to Audrey. Congratulations to staff. Super excited to see this going forward, and thank you for all that you do.

Elizabeth Kenny: Thank you. Next public comment is Audrey Lord-Hausman.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: Good evening, Chair Kenny and commissioners. I'm thrilled to be here. I couldn't be happier. I know the journey isn't quite over yet but there's been a lot of thoughtful, thoughtful work that has been put into this, and you all have continued this journey. And I thank you for acknowledging Kelly Harp in addition to Susan in the beginning in my living room and around the dining room table, and certainly the subcommittee as we all came together with the Planning Board. But it's been an extraordinary example of passion and collaboration with the Planning Department and with the Planning Board. When first brought it to Andrew's attention, I think it was a one-beat, two-beat. He wasn't quite sure what we were talking about. But over time, he just jumped right into it with us. And Andrew, I can't thank you enough. I nagged him constantly. You all should take a great deal of pride in this. Be there in September, have people there to speak to it. But when the final vote is in, and I'm going to assume it's unanimous, we can all take a great deal of pride in the fact that Alameda is a standard bearer on behalf of so many people. Thank you very much.

Elizabeth Kenny: Thank you, Audrey. Now we're going to go around. If anyone has any questions or comments on public comment. Commissioner Linton? Commissioner Brillinger? Commissioner

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Lewis? Deutsch? Hall? Commissioner Mills? Aghapekian?

Anto Aghapekian: I forgot to thank [did not record].

Elizabeth Kenny: And I would like to reiterate what Commissioner Aghapekian said, the Planning Board has been really wonderful during this process, and I have learned a tremendous amount from you, David. I have the passion but not the knowledge. And it's been a pleasure to work with you. And I appreciate that at the Planning Board you have been implementing some of this stuff without the ordinance. That's been really wonderful. But I also would like to have the ordinance in place. So, with that said, I would like to offer a vote with the addition of the accessible shower stall and tub on Section 5 of 18.5 waivers. Section C5 rather. I move that we vote to approve the ordinance and resolve to... What?

Jenn Barrett: Recommend.

Elizabeth Kenny: Recommend the council approve this ordinance, the Universal Design Ordinance. Commissioner Lewis seconded. All in favor?

All: Aye.

Elizabeth Kenny: Any opposed? Any abstained? I think it's unanimous.

Elizabeth Kenny: And I made some cupcakes. We have some cupcakes and sparkling cider for everybody after this.

6. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Elizabeth Kenny: But we still have to finish up this meeting. So, let's move on to item number 6, Staff Communications.

Kerry Parker: Okay. Quickly, it sounded like a CDI's event planning for this weekend's Downtown Alameda Art & Wine Faire happened right before this meeting. On Sunday, the CDI will have a table located in front of Walgreens on the park street side. And there's a schedule of people to perform outreach on that day. I think you guys have kind of discussed it amongst yourselves. The more the merrier.

Audrey Lord-Hausman: It's Saturday?

Kerry Parker: It's this Saturday. What did I say?

Elizabeth Kenny: Saturday, not Sunday.

Kerry Parker: Yes, Saturday. If you've not yet spoken with the event committee about your participation that day or if you're wondering about the details, please check in with Vice-Chair Brillinger immediately after this meeting while you're having a cupcake. And then I have one more

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thing. Just about two years ago this month, I was asked to staff a commission on disability issues as public works program specialist in charge of overseeing the trash recycling needs of the residents and businesses of Alameda, I was admittedly not as technically skilled as I could be for this area. I know a lot of details about the goings-on of your garbage company's operations, and can recite what goes into the blue and green curbside carts, but I did not know much about accessibility or the needs of the needs of the disabled community in Alameda.

Kerry Parker: However, I am good at pulling together an agenda and assisting in meeting management, because I worked with the Alameda Public Works Department for 14 years, I do know how to locate just the right person for whatever issue that might come up, including Andrew Thomas, a city planner. I did commit to streamlining commission processes and to add some formality to the commission by moving into this room.

Kerry Parker: We quickly established a rhythm of an increase in regular meetings in 2015. And the fact this meeting is now televised to the residents of Alameda, it's now a meeting that is more accessible to the public. I'm pretty sure you have sensed what I'm leading up to. This will be my last meeting as your city staff liaison for this commission. I will miss working with you guys. I have learned so much, and I've enjoyed working with you all for the past two years. And I'm celebrating this Universal Design ordinance, like the rest of you.

Kerry Parker: And so I'm handing off this set of duties to another public works staffer, Laurie Kozisek. Laurie will you please step up to the podium? I would like to read her bio to you, which I think you will agree makes a clear argument of why this staffing shift is happening. Laurie Kozisek is a licensed civil engineer and a certified access specialist, which is CASp for short. With a BS in Civil Engineering and a Masters of Strategic Planning for Critical Infrastructures. She has been working for the city of Alameda Public Works for the past 12 years, and has been a Bay Farm resident for the past 10 years.

Kerry Parker: Her current work with the city includes managing the five million dollar Street Repair Program and reviewing private development plans and permits. She has also been active in emergency management planning, sea level rise planning, floodplain management, remodeling the West End in Bay Farm libraries, dredging the South Shore lagoons, and renovating Woodstock Park.

Kerry Parker: Before coming to work in Alameda, she lived and worked in Alaska, designing airports, roads, cemeteries, and utilities. She served as a member of the Public Right of Way Access Advisory Committee representing the Municipality of Anchorage. This was a nationwide committee that worked for several years to develop ADA guidance for the public right of way. As part of that effort, she co-edited "Building a True Community" 2001 and co-wrote "Accessible Public Rights of Way Planning and Design for Alterations" in 2007.

Kerry Parker: She also served on several boards and commissions concerning transportation and urban planning. In her spare time - Can you imagine she has spare time - Laurie is a phone volunteer for Contra Costa Crisis Center and 211, a disaster response team captain for the American Red Cross, and an usher for the Leshner Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek. She regularly assists

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her 94 year old father, who is legally blind and has mobility issues. She is a member of the Alameda Dragonflyers dragon boat racing team and enjoys camping and hiking. Please join me in welcoming Laurie Kozisek.

Kerry Parker: If you have any words to say, you can, but she will be beginning with you in October at your October meeting.

Laurie Kozisek: I didn't really have anything prepared, but I did work briefly with this group about 10 years ago when Ed Sommerauer was doing it, and I was the alternative staff member when he couldn't make it. And because of my background in working on ADA regulations, I'm really looking forward to using my expertise to answer your questions and try and assist you wherever I can.

Elizabeth Kenny: Thank you very much, and welcome.

Arnold Brillinger: Welcome, Laurie.

Laurie Kozisek: Thank you.

Kerry Parker: Thank you, Laurie.

Laurie Kozisek: Thank you. Question?

Arnold Brillinger: I think that it needs to be said that without Kerry, we couldn't have gone on for the last couple of years. Behind the scenes of just about everything that we've been putting on, and she comes up with all the e-mails and the work, and so forth so thank you very much, Kerry. We really appreciate it. In fact I can't even tell you how much I appreciate what you have done for us, thank you.

Kerry Parker: Thank you.

Laurie Kozisek: Yes.

Laurie Kozisek: From what I've learned from Kerry so far, I have some very big shoes to fill, but thank you.

Kerry Parker: I will give you my shoes. We'll figure it out. I'm going to be working behind the scenes for the October meeting with Laurie, so I think you're going to send some of that stuff, but thank you. It's been wonderful working with you. Even though I didn't get a chance much to work with the two of you, but I'll still be there in public works, if anyone wants to call.

Elizabeth Kenny: Thank you, I'll probably be calling for recycling tips.

Kerry Parker: Okay, good. Appropriate.

Elizabeth Kenny: So, does anyone have any announcements?

ITEM 2-B
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING ON
Tuesday, July 25, 2017 6:30 p.m.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Kozisek
City Staff Liaison
Commission on Disability Issues