

ITEM 3-A
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, May 8, 2019, 6:30 PM

1. ROLL CALL

Jennifer Barrett: Hi everyone, good evening. Would like to welcome everyone to the meeting and the Commission on Disability. Thank you everyone for coming. We're starting a little late 6:39 PM on Wednesday, May 8th, 2019. Laurie, can you please do the roll call?

Laurie Kozisek: Yes, Madam Chairman. Jennifer Barrett.

Jennifer Barrett: Present.

Laurie Kozisek: Lisa Hall.

Lisa Hall: Present.

Laurie Kozisek: Beth Kenny.

Beth Kenny: Present.

Laurie Kozisek: Jenny Linton.

Jenny Linton: Present.

Laurie Kozisek: Susan Deutsch.

Susan Deutsch: Present.

Laurie Kozisek: Arnold Brillinger.

Arnold Brillinger: Here.

Laurie Kozisek: And then three people are not here, are Leslie Morrison, Anto Aghapekian, and Jennifer Roloff. And we have a quorum.

2. MAYOR COMMUNICATIONS

Jennifer Barrett: Great. Thank you, Laurie So, first off, on the agenda is Mayor Communications. John Knox White, our Vice Mayor, is here. Thank you so much for coming.

John Knox White: Thank you, Chair Barrett. Commissioners, thank you very much. The Mayor had a conflict this evening, and so she asked me if I would come. Something that I've learned in the last year is the "Vice" in "Vice Mayor" means "replacement". I always thought it meant "second" but anyways, I'm here, acting as your replacement mayor. So I did have a chance to chat with Mayor Ezzy Ashcraft this afternoon, and she wanted to make sure that I thank you, expressed really, our gratitude and appreciation for the work and the issues that you both communicate to us, but also are working on, working to identify and help ensure that the City is moving forward in a stronger

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and better way.

John Knox White: As a Planning Board member, as the Planning Board chair, I was very pleased to work on the Universal Design Ordinance with Arnold who attended most of our meetings, and we communicated, Miss Kenny, many others, Audrey Lord-Hausman, etcetera. Still it's a crowning achievement of the city, we are still the only city in the state that has the universal design ordinance and requirements for our new construction, and I think it's both a shining example of something we can do, also a little disappointing that we're the only city in the state that does this.

John Knox White: So really just wanted to come and say, thank you. Mayor Ezzy Ashcraft is visiting all the boards and commissions and just making sure you know that we're here, we're here to support you, our staff is here to support you, the City Manager, the City. We have a fantastic new City Attorney, who will be starting on Monday, so if you have questions, please feel free to reach out. You can reach out to the mayor or I or any of the council members, so if you have questions or need support or want to talk about issues, we're happy to do that. And anyway, unless there's questions, I just wanted to say thank you very much.

Jennifer Barrett: Great, thank you so much.

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Jennifer Barrett: Okay, we're going to move on to item number three, minutes. Does anyone have any comments on the minutes from our March 13th, 2019, meeting?

Lisa Hall: I wasn't here at the meeting, but I did read the minutes. So I do have some thoughts, and information on the warming shelter, and the mental health issue on that, that you guys talked about a little bit.

Jennifer Barrett: Great, would you like to talk about that during the Commission and Board Liaison Reports?

Lisa Hall: Yes.

Jennifer Barrett: Perfect, thank you. Do we have someone who is going to say in favor of the minutes?

Arnold Brillinger: I move that we approve the minutes.

Jennifer Barrett: Great, do we have a second?

Beth Kenny: Second.

Jennifer Barrett: All in favor?

All: Aye.

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

Jennifer Barrett: Let's move on to item number four, oral communications, non-agenda public comment. Do we have any public comments today? No? Great, let's move on to item number five.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5-A Jennifer Kauffman, Housing Authority of the City of Alameda, Rent Stabilization Program

Jennifer Barrett: Item number 5a, Jennifer Kaufman is here from the Housing Authority of the City of Alameda Rent Stabilization Program. Thank you so much, Jennifer, for coming.

Jennifer Kaufman: Hi everyone. So nice to be here, thank you very much for letting us present. And I have a brief presentation about what the current policy and rights and responsibilities are for tenants and landlords. And then I wanted to let you all know about some upcoming opportunities and workshops, and places for feedback as well. And then I have time for questions as well, if there's anything that came up. So, part of also the reason I wanted to come here tonight is that the program's been in place for a little over three years and we've done a lot of outreach but I think, as always, there's people in the community that either don't know the program exists or don't know the types of services that we offer. So I have this presentation here but I wanted to also say that if you know of meetings or groups or friends or family that are interested in this information, we're a traveling road show, so we can go to church events or community events and share this information. And then there's also a lot of resources online so I would love to connect to anyone or anyone you know that would like to access that kind of information.

Jennifer Kaufman: So I'll get started. This is the beginning. It might look familiar, it's our annual report cover. You want to flip to the next one? Do I have the clicker? Okay, great, so we like to always start by saying all the different roles, and I see my councilman over here, it's nice to have you in the audience. And we like to distinguish between what the different roles can do and services they provide. So right now, as the policy is written, the City Council has the ability to make amendments. Meaning they are the decision makers about what the regulations are.

Jennifer Kaufman: You will also have the Housing Authority. So we're a separate agency and we provide all the information and services associated with the program. But there is also a Rent Review Advisory Committee, which is also a separate body, that is a group of volunteers that are all here in the City of Alameda, and they provide decisions for specific tenant and landlord cases about each unique rent. So I'll get into more of their process. And then finally, there's the City Finance Department, which is separate from the Housing Authority and collects the annual fee for the program. So I'm from the second one on this here, so I'm from the Housing Authority. So I'm going to just really briefly go over the regulations in sort of a bird's eye view, and I'd like to just first start with, who does the regulation apply for? And so, it applies to all single family homes, all duplexes, multi-family units, condos, except for the units that are identified in this pie chart. So I'll start with accommodations because it's simple somehow. So that would be, if a unit is in a hotel and it's rented

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for less than 30 days, it's exempt from the policy. Another one might be dormitory.

Jennifer Kaufman: Commercial units or storage units, something like that, is not covered. Mobile homes are not covered. Institutions like a university dormitory or a hospital are not covered. And then if a unit is already in a regulatory agreement with a government agency, then it's not covered. So the most common example of that is a unit that's part of the Housing Choice Voucher Section 8 Program. They already are following a whole different set of rules so they're exempt from this policy. Then if the owner is living in a home that's a single-family home and is renting just a room in that home, but sharing the kitchen with the tenant or a bathroom, then that tenant is not covered under the current policy. And then the last one, light gray. If there's a tenancy less than 30 days then it's not subject to these regulations.

Jennifer Kaufman: So in brief, the program, I kind of like to think of it has two arms, one arm is tracking and regulating rent increases, and other arm is tracking and regulating terminations of tenancy. And I think it's important to point out that in tenant-landlord dynamics, there's a whole bunch of other issues that come up about security deposits or maintenance issues, and those are not regulated right now by the program. The only thing that the policy has authority to regulate are terminations and rent increases.

Jennifer Kaufman: So in brief, what the rent increase looks like right now, is that there can only be one in a 12-month period. There is no cap on the amount that a landlord can ask for, but there's a different process depending on how much the landlord is asking for. And if it's an increase request, more than 5%, then there's a mandatory review, and if there's an increase request of 5% or less, then it's not mandatory, there's a review, but the tenant can request one. And then the review is scheduled. If before the review hearing takes place, the tenant and landlord would like to talk privately or come to our office and get private mediation and that results in a voluntary agreement between both parties, then the hearing is cancelled, then the voluntary agreement is honored.

Jennifer Kaufman: So I mentioned that Rent Review Advisory Committee. So what happens is, if the agreement is not reached before the scheduled hearing date, then a committee similar to yourselves, but there's just five of them, meets monthly, and hears from the tenant and then hears from the landlord and makes a determination about what the reasonable rent would be. The volunteer committee is made up of two tenants, two landlords, and one homeowner, nominated by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council. And they have authority to make binding decisions on the allowable rents if the rent request was more than 5% and the unit is in a multi-family building built before 1995.

Jennifer Kaufman: Any other types of rent increases are subject to non-binding decisions. And then there is an appeal process. So if either party disagrees with the decision of the committee, then they can appeal. And interesting, in the over three years, we've only had one case, heard an appeal. And then moving on to terminations, right now, a landlord can terminate for 10 allowable grounds. And I would just note again that there are already state law requirements about what terminations need to look like so this is just on top of those regulations that are already in place. The first four that we have on this list are considered reasons that a landlord would terminate that are caused by some action by the tenant. So first one is non-payment of rent, and the landlord would need to

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follow the state law procedures for moving forward with an eviction for that reason, but the city put no additional requirements on it, it's just following state law. Then the grounds that are in the box there are unique and they are considered grounds that a landlord would terminate for no fault of the tenant. And those do have new requirements now in the city, on top of what the state law requires. So right now, for those six, the landlord has to file with our offices if they would like to terminate for those reasons, and they need to pay the tenant relocation assistance.

Jennifer Kaufman: So relocation assistance right now is a base amount of \$1,665, that gets changed each year based on the Consumer Price Index. And it doesn't matter how long the tenants lived there, that is the base amount. And then the other part of the equation is a formula based on what the current rent is, times the number of years the tenant has lived in the unit, but there's a cap at four. So, for example, if someone, let's say, lives in a duplex, they're going to be evicted for no cause, they're entitled then to relocation assistance and in this scenario, let's say, they pay \$1,000 in rent, they lived there for 12 years. They would be entitled to the maximum amount of four years' credit, so \$4,000 plus \$1,665. Then there is an extended stay option that if tenants are being terminated for no cause, demolition, or withdrawal from the rental market, the tenant has the opportunity to trade some of the money that they are owed for the ability to stay in the unit for more time. And there's a payment schedule that the first half is owed when the tenant confirms the date they'll move out and the second half is owed after the tenant vacates the unit.

Jennifer Kaufman: So this is the last slide. And what I wanted to let everyone know is that, as I mentioned, there's a lot of other topics that come up in housing issues, and the Housing Authority is working with a third party vendor to provide these Fair Housing trainings that cover fair housing under federal and state law. We're hosting three, so I guess two at the end of the month and then one early June, and we just actually held one in April, at the library, and it was really well-attended and a really great opportunity for the community members that came to ask questions. It was an attorney that was providing the training and they covered so many different topics. So, there's online registration for folks that want to come. It's free, there's evening and day time, workshops, so if you know anyone, have ideas about how to spread the word about these trainings, please get in touch with me. And then we also have more in-depth workshops about the current regulations, what the processes look like and that kind of thing. There are videos online, and then also we host in-person workshops once a month.

Jennifer Kaufman: So lots of different ways to get more information. I just wanted to show this is a flyer that we have about the Fair Housing training, that's just outside. And then we also have digital versions of anyone's interested and I also wanted to make a plug that there are also free legal services for low-income households, for tenants. And we have a contract with a third party vendor as well. So there's these flyers I think they're outside as well, but if you know individuals that are needing legal services, please reach out to us, we can connect them or grab one of these flyers. And then I also just wanted to point out, this is our brochure that has a lot more detail about the processes and that if you know of places to distribute these we would love hear about them. And then I had one more thing I wanted to show online, which is kind of a unique timing. Right now you might have heard that the Council is looking at potentially amending what the current policies are. So we're looking at ways to get community input.

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Jennifer Kaufman: We held an open house last week and it'll be the first of a series. We're looking at different ways to get community. And right now, there's an online survey, so it's going to be up until this coming Monday if you would like to take it or share it with anyone you know the way to find it is it's our website, alamedarentprogram.org/community-input. Could you just click on the first click to proceed if you scroll down, just want to show you what it looks like. So this is an example at the open house, we had these issue boards with different policy elements, so high-level thinking about different areas that we've heard interest in and getting input about what people think about them, before we're drilling down into some really technical aspects moving forward. So, I would invite everyone to share comments through that. Or you're always welcome to send comments through our office and we'll share them with the city council. Thank you so much, I have some time for questions if anyone wanted to follow up, otherwise, you can get my contact information from Laurie.

Jennifer Barrett: Great, thank you so much. Commissioner Brillinger, do you have any questions or comments? No? Commissioner Deutsch.

Susan Deutsch: No. That was very good, thank you.

Jennifer Barrett: Commissioner Linton.

Jenny Linton: No, thank you.

Jennifer Barrett: Commissioner Kenny.

Beth Kenny: Yes, I have a few questions. I see up here are the quick facts. And it talks about 38% of termination of tenancies were served for no cause. Where can we find more information about that? Because, if there's no cause it kind of defeats the purpose of anything. And do you guys track things like after these mediations that happened after the landlord and tenant have come to an agreement, how long does the tendency last after that? Because if the landlord gets an unfavorable decision, what prevents them from turning around and doing a just cause eviction?

Jennifer Kaufman: No, I think, so you're asking a really important point of what are we tracking, what data do we know, so how are we making informed decisions, and I think that's a really good point. So the first thing I say is, we do monthly reports and annual reports which if you scrolled to the top of our website, I think the other bar there, anyways, there's a part that says, reports and news so you could click on that to get more up-to-date and depending on what section you wanted to look at data on. How many people reach agreements, beforehand? What are the percentages of the rent increase they're agreeing to? Are people agreeing to 4%? Are they agreeing to 10%? And so, that's all available here. And then I would comment to, we only know the data that's reported to us. So the universe that we have is the universe, where people are complying and sharing that information with us. We get, I suppose I could show it here, but there's ways online that tenants can submit questions, complaints, or requests for review, in addition to calling us and that kind of thing, but we do record that kind of data and generate these types of reports.

Jennifer Kaufman: I think there's interest in maybe thinking of something more comprehensive,

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that's not just a complaint-based... But I know there's been interest in, what's the rent of every unit that we have in the city. We're not there right now, based on what we have the authority to collect on that kind of thing, but this is the place we might start. So for example, you can't even read that but this is the exhibit, the monthly report that shows for each case that came in for rent increase, what was the base rent? If we know the age of the tenants, we just do rent history for the last two years. What was the offer? So you can see this is - I remember it was all the same large complex. So they were all asking for 10%, and then what was the result? So it's a place to get started, but that's really drilled down. There's some higher level you can see some analysis of just the raw data.

Beth Kenny: So you don't track people over after they have gone through that process. There's nothing in the mediation agreement that says, "We'd like you to report on your tenancy 12 months from now"?

Jennifer Kaufman: Right. So I see what you're asking. So if someone agrees to something, do we require a follow-up? So right now there's no follow-up. However, if a tenant is evicted the landlord is required to report it. So we would be able to connect those two dots. But if the tenant leaves voluntarily that's not required to be reported at this time.

Beth Kenny: And then it won't be required to be reported if they had an eviction based on a breach of the lease term, right?

Jennifer Kaufman: Yeah, that's a really good point. So right now, we're only record and report on terminations that are seen as no fault of the tenant. Terminations that are for a cause like a non-payment of rent are not tracked. It's interesting though, I've been in touch with a lot of other cities that have these types of programs so we have a lot of best practices to look at. And there is a level of detail there, because someone received a breach of lease notice, doesn't necessarily mean that they were evicted. And there's a trail there and right now that trail is not being recorded in our city.

Beth Kenny: Okay. And then, I know you don't have jurisdiction over habitability issues, but are they factored in when the rent control, when the rent increases are coming before you?

Jennifer Kaufman: Yeah, no, thank you for bringing it up. That's a big issue because I'd mentioned habitability issues. There is a way to have those inspected and reviewed and that would be through the Code Enforcement Department, so we're not duplicating their work. People can make complaints to them and have issues addressed. But just like you said, if someone, let's say, gets a request for an increase at 8% and the tenant wants to say there was a leak that didn't get repaired and a two-bedroom was really functioning as a one-bedroom because they couldn't use the leaky bedroom. The tenant could use that example potentially in the case review by the committee. Yes, and it's interesting the way the policy is written, there's five factors that the committee is supposed to look at, including decrease or increase in housing services, where we would get to maintenance, but it says not limited to these five factors. So it's really unique, I think this process to Alameda, and allows the individuals that are participating to bring up whatever they want to be heard by the other party as well as the committee.

Beth Kenny: Great. And then my last question is about people with disability, specifically. Many

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other municipalities that have any sort of rental protections include special protections for people with disabilities, especially around move out, relocation and giving extra time and extra relocation expenses. It's really necessary for people with disability because there's such a small amount of accessible housing stock and they're facing additional challenges in packing up and moving some place. So I really encourage everybody to have that in their mind when thinking about how we want a new rental ordinance to look.

Jennifer Kaufman: Yeah, I appreciate you saying that. I think that's a really good comment. It is seen in a lot of other jurisdictions that the formula, not only may be is a little higher if someone is a person with disabilities or they might get additional time in the unit. I will tell you that, on April 2nd, the Council passed a resolution that specifically, if the tenants being asked to leave, so the landlord can withdraw the unit from the property, those tenants will have the option to stay longer if they're a person with disabilities. But that's just one piece of a bigger puzzle and one of the issue boards that is part of the survey is about relocation assistance and I think that's a really good point to bring up, yes.

Beth Kenny: Great, thank you. And thank you for coming here tonight and thank you for your hard work.

Jennifer Barrett: Okay, thank you. Commissioner Hall.

Lisa Hall: Hi, thank you. I just want to add, as much as information as the Housing Authority has, there's also the Alameda Renters Coalition, and they have many statistics for renting and evictions and etcetera, and what is happening in Alameda, based on the City-County reports, that you can get a little bit more of that information, if you're looking on that side. There's a lot of good that the Housing Authority does for a lot of people. I just know that there is a group of some seniors and others that live in some of these units that are run by the Housing Authority and they're afraid to speak up because of things that have happened in the past. Especially with the disabled people, we want to help, stand up for the disabled people that are having a difficult time.

Lisa Hall: And as she said many of them who on a fixed income so at least the Housing Authority is trying to do a little something there to give time when somebody does have to move out, to give time, instead of the money, that can be more beneficial sometimes. A lot of times it is the money, of course, but to find a place to move to, sometimes you need time. And I'm glad they're adding that in more. And I think that should be, hopefully when tweaking the rent stabilization, that will be even more pronounced for the disabled community may be a little bit, because as financial is a hard part, finding a place that's accessible and affordable is even more, it's more of an obstacle.

Jennifer Kaufman: Right. Two months is not that much time, yes.

Lisa Hall: Not at all. Especially in the East Bay where we all live. It's hard to find for anyone, but especially the disabled community.

Jennifer Barrett: Great. Well, thank you again for coming to speak. I have two comments going off of Commissioners Hall and Kenny. Yes, the disability community is really important that they

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have that time and extra protection that they need. If you guys are looking into ideas or researching other cities that have those programs, please keep us in mind and we can have someone assigned to help you in that process so that we can play a role. We are more than happy to help. And then, I just wanted to get clarification. So if it's under 5%, it doesn't have to be reported at all. Is that correct?

Jennifer Kaufman: Correct. There's no required filing of any notice less than 5% for rent increase.

Jennifer Barrett: And then, unless there's a complaint by the tenant or the landlord, and then over 5% is an automatic review?

Jennifer Kaufman: That's right. Over 5%, there's a required reporting. But if it's under, it would be up to the tenant if they wanted to let us know about it or raise any concerns about it. Yes.

Jennifer Barrett: Great. And I'm glad that you talked about the legal services because I think that is important for a lot of tenants, and I'm happy to hear that reported so that people know. So, thank you so much.

Jennifer Kaufman: Yes, great. Well, I'll have to follow up with you afterwards. I'll definitely share the feedback that you provided tonight as we move forward and then, I think if there's interest to write something formally to submit about this process, you're invited to do so, but then we'll have to just be in touch. And again, if there's any other outreach opportunities that you know of, let us know. Thank you so much for your time.

5-B Kelly Whiteford, Saba Ahmadi, and Cortney Allen, Practicum Trainees, Alameda family Services – Behavioral HealthCare Services – Metal Health Support

Jennifer Barrett: Thank you. Okay. I'd like to move on to item 5B. Kelly Wyford, Saba Ahmadi, and Courtney Allen are here from the Alameda Family Services. Thank you guys so much for coming.

Kelly Wyford: Hello, and thank you for having us. It's very nice to be able to present for you all today. As you said, my name is Kelly, and then, this is Saba and Courtney. I'm not used to having a mic, so I might be moving back and forth and having to remind myself to stand here quite a bit. I'm going to start off talking about some of our services and what we do, and Saba's going to help me out with that and then, Courtney's going to give some contact information and how to get in touch with us. To start off, Alameda Family Services is a behavioral health clinic. We do a lot of work with different age groups and usually, we see families, couples, and individuals. We have a range from programs that work with kids that are 0 to 7 years old that would be our Head Start program, to programs such as doing family therapy with kids as young as 4-year-old with their parents, to working with individuals and adults once they turn 18, and we have populations that go into as long as life is.

Kelly Wyford: We also do work with the local probation services and so, we get referrals that way and that is one way we do see people under 18 individually. Our services are available in all these languages. English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Spanish, Swiss German, French, and Hebrew for the next

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month or so. And then over the summer, we have a few services that continue on, but those will just be in English. And then if I remember correctly, next year, there will be at least Spanish and Mandarin along with English and Cantonese.

Kelly Wyford: So, along with our usual counseling we do, we also have a couple of special programs. We have two different anger management groups, one for adults and another for adolescents. We brought in some flyers that go along with it that I can share with you all after this. All of our groups that we provide are fee-based. We take both Medi-Cal and a sliding scale based fees. We also do assessments for children and adults, we diagnosis from post-traumatic stress disorder to looking at autism and Saba will talk a little bit more about that. And we take a lot of referrals and do quite a bit of community outreach when we can.

Saba Ahmadi: Speak a little bit specifically about our services, we're also a brief therapy model, meaning we see our clients and individuals and families within the area for 1 to 12 sessions. Primarily, as Kelly have said, we work with families, we work with couples, and we work with adolescents. Often times when families reach out to us to have the opportunity of connecting with adolescents, but we always work with a family context, because we believe that it's about building community and creating a unification of the system. In terms of psychological assessment, we provide brief psychological assessment for kids' learning needs and particular individuals who have learning disabilities and ADHD, and we look at psycho-diagnostic functioning.

Saba Ahmadi: Price is set at a certain standard, but can always be modified to make it more affordable being that the opportunity to have it covered by insurance is not at our particular site is not offered, but we work with clients and individuals to make sure that psychological assessment can be affordable to those individuals and that we can kind of follow up with that process. To start off with, we focus on the intake line. So any individual who would like the opportunity of planning an appointment, we give them our intake line, they leave a message, and they connect with us.

Saba Ahmadi: Within one to two days an individual calls back, and we connect to discuss the opportunities that we have and see whether or not we're a good fit for the client, and then we connect them through the process of doing an intake on the phone. As Kelly had said earlier, we have the opportunity of accepting Medi-Cal or we do a sliding scale. The process to accepting documentation takes about 7-14 days, going through access, making sure all the documentation is ready. We usually let families know after those seven days whether or not they've been accepted or whether we have to go through a sliding scale process. Most families within the Alameda area do qualify. If not, we usually connect with family and individuals to go on about that.

Courtney Allen: Alright, and then there are some opportunities to collaborate and refer. Like Saba had mentioned, you can call intake line. You can also email. There's also internal referrals, and then we also provide our brochures and flyers at outreach events like this and other places that we have opportunity to do so. We are open Monday through Thursdays from 09:00 AM to 08:00 PM and on Fridays from 09:00 AM to 05:00 PM. Our facility is located at 2325 Clement Avenue, Suite A, here at Alameda, and that is our website. If you wanted to find more information about our services, www.alamedafs.org. And then just to recap some of the programs that we have offered through our facility are the behavioral healthcare services, our early Head Start, and Head Start that Kelly

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discussed, and also school-based services. And then here is contact information for our program director, Jennifer Wu, phone number and email. And then we are open to any questions that anyone might have for us. Thank you.

Jennifer Barrett: Great, thank you so much for coming. Commissioner Brillinger, do you have any comments or questions?

Arnold Brillinger: Well, I do know where their facilities are. And now that's just for Alameda, right? Not Alameda County? Our Medi-Cal is... Is it the City of Alameda?

Kelly Wyford: It's Alameda County.

Arnold Brillinger: Thank you.

Jennifer Barrett: Commissioner Deutsch.

Susan Deutsch: What school-based services do you provide?

Kelly Wyford: So our school-based services include working at Alameda High School along with I believe some other middle schools and high schools. I personally do help at one of the high schools where we do individual work there with the students and I believe also, there are some groups although none are running at the moment. But earlier in the year, there was some outreach group which was basically working with substance use and with the students there. And was there any more detail or anything?

Susan Deutsch: If a student has an IEP, and they need mental health services, do you provide that or what does the school district have to provide that in another way?

Kelly Wyford: I believe that it depends on what the IEP needs and that we're adjunct to mostly do some individual work. That would free up more resources for the IEPs, but I believe Jennifer would have a lot more detail on that. Yeah.

Susan Deutsch: Okay, and you said you get funding from Alameda County?

Kelly Wyford: From Medi-Cal, yes. And from the County, yes.

Susan Deutsch: Okay, thank you. That was very good.

Kelly Wyford: Thanks.

Jennifer Barrett: Commissioner Linton.

Jenny Linton: I have a question. You said that you do assessments for people with special needs. If you were to come up with a diagnosis, say of, I don't know, ADHD, do you provide treatment for that diagnosis or do you provide more of a referral service for longer term treatment?

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Kelly Wyford: So it depend. Did you have more that you wanted to add to that?

Jenny Linton: No.

Kelly Wyford: Okay. Well. So I laugh at myself whenever I say "it depends" because so many of my answers are, "It depends." But most services start off with the assessment and we do a therapeutic assessment model where as we are going through tests and gathering information, we want to make it a healing process because there are so many opportunities for that to be very stigmatizing and because more harm than good. And then, if they do come up with some diagnosis, they can continue with our services or be referred to something that might be a better fit for whatever they need. We generally work with moderate to severe cases. And so if their symptoms reach that level, then we are available to continue.

Jennifer Barrett: Commissioner Kenny?

Beth Kenny: Hi, thank you for being here tonight. I want to ask, do you guys offer any drop-in services or crisis services?

Kelly Wyford: Do you guys want to answer? I can but I feel like I'm answering all the questions.

Saba Ahmadi: So in terms of crisis, we don't necessarily do drop-in services but if there is a crisis and an individual walks into our facility, we do have the opportunity to have one of our trainees to assess and benefit, and assist this individual to the best that they can.

Beth Kenny: Okay, so if somebody sees somebody in crisis, they should not be sending them your way?

Kelly Wyford: So if someone's in crisis, usually it's best to go to the hospital. The crisis I'm imagining is something that's probably life-threatening and that's where you're going to get the best care. But we do have crisis services were either someone will walk in or they can call us, and we will work with them to get connected to where they need to be or assess to see what will be the best fit. And we do have on-call therapists for that but it is a limited service.

Beth Kenny: Thank you. I also am wondering, you said you do sessions of one to 12 sessions. What happens if somebody needs more? Are you guys partnered with other agencies?

Kelly Wyford: Yes. So two things usually happen, either they are referred to a service that can give more long-term care or the treatment is extended to up to 20 sessions. That's if there is a very particular reason or something has come up that needs to be contained or helped. I'm missing the right word but basically work through it together. And we try to send people off in a state where they're going to continue to grow and get better of course.

Beth Kenny: And one final question, this is more of a general question. So we're taking time to look at what's offered in the City of Alameda for mental health services, and since you guys are in

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that business, I'm wondering what would you like to see that isn't currently offered in the City of Alameda? Where is the need?

Kelly Wyford: There's just so much need, so, so much. I think, personally, I see a lot of need with adolescents and children on an individual level. We do mostly family work or in schools and things like that and there is more work needed there. You two probably have a good idea or so, right?

Courtney Allen: Yes. I would say that I agree with Kelly about the kids and adolescents being seen individually. Just like she said, we try to see children in a family setting. So we don't see children that are under the age of 18 individually which, you can imagine, coming to therapy is a really hard process and for an adolescent wanting to come and talk to somebody, it's really hard to have your parents there. Sometimes you just want to have that third-party person alone.

Beth Kenny: Yes, and you have to have a parent who is able to come with you as well.

Courtney Allen: Right. That could be limiting for the therapy for the adolescent if they're skipping around subjects they don't want to talk about with their parents present and stuff like that. So seeing more individual therapy for adolescents I think we definitely agree.

Saba Ahmadi: For me, a lot more services for special education. I actually used to be a special education teacher in Oakland and going through services, and going through the processes of IEP and psychological assessment, it is a very difficult aspect because education itself already has cut funding, especially in the Oakland school districts, San Jose, different areas. So I think that one of the particular things that should be available is we offer the opportunity to do psychological assessment for individuals but there should be more opportunities within the county and the city to offer those services. It would give the opportunity for individuals to find that support sooner rather than later.

Saba Ahmadi: Also, the opportunity to very much advocate for early childhood development. Zero to five, zero to seven are very prime years for kids and if mental health services or any type of trigger, or anything that a parent needs, those services should be available sooner rather than later. So very much advocating with pre-schools and kindergarten students.

Kelly Wyford: I'm being greedy and taking a second turn. I also noticed there was a lot of need for Spanish-speaking services of all kinds. We do provide some but our waitlist was filled up almost immediately and there is still so much more need. And then with older populations too, it's generally an invisible population and has a lot of need for advocacy.

Beth Kenny: Great, thank you all very much, and I appreciate the work you do.

Jennifer Barrett: Commissioner Hall.

Lisa Hall: Thank you, ladies. Very important what you're doing. I myself went as a youngster, a million years ago. Yes. And I know what a great program it is. Is the Alameda Family Service Agency still running Tri-High at the high schools? The Tri-High Health Program, at the high

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schools, or is that separate?

Kelly Wyford: I don't believe so. I'm actually not sure what that is, sorry.

Lisa Hall: Yeah they, because Tri-High at the high schools where they could go and talk to somebody like a counselor and get, all about health at the high schools.

Kelly Wyford: Yeah. I think the names just changed. I think it's just generally called the Health Clinic at this point. And so that's where they can get the individual services or other health services there too.

Lisa Hall: They can go there and then get referrals too, right?

Kelly Wyford: Yes.

Lisa Hall: And that's both high schools still, is it?

Kelly Wyford: I believe so, yes. I only work at one of them, so I can only be sure about one of them.

Lisa Hall: I know different students that have gone through there, through the programs there, and are a lot of very grateful kids. I have two, I had two who went through the systems of the school, so I know their friends. I also just want to bring up in all the good work you're doing. One of our local graduates from here just graduated college, a long time Alameda resident. And she just wrote a book with a doctor, and it's called "Winning with ADHD", and her name is Grace Freedman, and it is a book helping young teens and adults dealing with ADHD. So if you get a chance look at it and maybe you'll recommend it.

Kelly Wyford: Yes, for sure.

Lisa Hall: And she's a local girl, born and raised Alameda!

Kelly Wyford: That's so great. Yes and there needs to be much more books like that, so I'm so happy to hear that.

Lisa Hall: And she has ADHD herself and so, she's very committed to the project and she was just thrilled. I mean, she just graduated college and she has now published her first book.

Kelly Wyford: Wow, yes.

Lisa Hall: Yes. It's pretty, pretty amazing.

Jennifer Barrett: Awesome. Well, thank you so much for coming to speak. We really appreciate it and this is great knowledge that you've shared with us.

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Kelly Wyford: Thank you for having us.

5-C Liam Garland, Director of Public Works, City of Alameda
City of Alameda Climate Action and Resiliency Plan (CARP) Update

Jennifer Barrett: Agenda item 5C is City of Public Works update on the Alameda Climate Action and Resiliency Plan. And we have Liam Garland from the Public Works Department. Thank you so much for coming.

Liam Garland: Commissioners, good evening. My name is Liam Garland. I'm the Public Works Director here in the City of Alameda. I'm standing in actually for Patrick Pelegri-O'Day, who you may remember as a climate fellow who I believe presented to this commission earlier on in development of the Climate Action and Resiliency Plan. This news might be more exciting than the Mueller report. Next week, we are unveiling a first draft of our Climate Action and Resiliency Plan and I've got about a 12 or 13-minute presentation. But really the key takeaway is, be ready for that plan to be released on May 14th, and then be ready to share input on that plan for the two weeks after it is released. And then third, what I'm here to do is just provide a little bit of context going into your review of that plan that might help you get to the sections you care most about. So with that, what you have in front of you is a placemat. What I affectionately hopefully call a placemat, and that placemat starts with, "What's the big idea behind the Climate Action Resiliency Plan?"

Liam Garland: If you look back to late 2008, the city adopted a climate plan that was really focused just on the left side of the top of the placemat, and that is around greenhouse gas emissions and ways to reduce those emissions. This update to that plan, is also taking on the large challenge of how Alameda is going to adapt to climate change. There's no doubt that a certain amount of climate change is baked into the atmosphere, excuse the pun, and that Alameda is going to need to adapt to some of those affects. And this plan brings together both of those pieces. We're going to lay out an idea called the Climate Safe Path, and that idea is, that the more Alameda is a leader in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the more folks, other cities, counties, states, other governments, will follow that lead, reduce their emissions as well, and that ultimately has a benefit for Alameda because there's a less sea level rise in the future, less damage from flooding and other climate change affects. Does that all make sense so far?

Jennifer Barrett: Yes.

Liam Garland: Okay, great! Now if we move down to the next level, these are three areas of focus that you're going to see in the plan. One area of focus is going to be on buildings. And there's some really good news about electricity in our buildings. As of 2020, Alameda Municipal Power is going to be providing carbon neutral power. So in other words, clean energy coming out of the sockets in our homes. That provides a huge opportunity for this city to move more into electrifying various parts of the home and therefore, lowering carbon emissions. And so, you're going to see things in the plan that take a crack at how to impose all electric requirements on some new development.

Liam Garland: And if so, Alameda will be, I think, on the cutting edge of those kinds of requirements. There's also going to be incentives laid out for how existing owners and occupiers of

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buildings can help electrify their homes. Now, the converse of this is the elimination of natural gas over time. And let me pause actually for just a moment. If we take a look at the pie chart, this is the upper left-hand corner, this is our greenhouse gas emissions back in 2015. And you'll see that on the right-hand side, electricity and natural gas represent almost 50% of our emissions.

Liam Garland: As we move more and more into electricity, that leaves the remaining emissions coming from natural gas. And so we're going to be incentivizing folks to move from their gas-powered furnaces, yes, those dear stoves that you might love that are fed by gas, and encourage and incentivize folks to make the switch to electrical appliances and electrical building components.

Liam Garland: The last piece of reducing greenhouse gases, at least, as arguably, not a building's issue, but it's around sequestration. Essentially, your urban forest, your trees are sequestering carbon and that is a good thing. There are new promising areas of applying compost in more parkland areas where that compost helps the soil sequester carbon. And so we'll probably have pilot projects in the coming years of applying compost in various open areas.

Liam Garland: So I'm going to move to the transportation sector where if you imagine that natural gas use is going to decrease over time, then the transportation sector actually becomes a bigger piece of the overall pie. And here, the push is all about being consistent with our transportation choices plan. It's getting more of us into public transit, more of us into bicycling, walking, and ultimately reducing the vehicle miles traveled.

Liam Garland: There's going to be another component of the plan that pushes not just to reduce those vehicle miles traveled but also to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles here. And you got to connect up again to Alameda Municipal Power providing carbon-neutral power which means that you could have an electric vehicle in Alameda that is tapping into carbon-free electricity. There's lots of challenges here with our EV charging infrastructure, and the plan's going to lay out some ideas about how we can approach that issue as well.

Liam Garland: There will be some big picture measures in there around the congestion pricing. So imagine our city with just a few ways on and off where we're actually implementing a policy of congestion pricing with the benefit of helping encouraging people in those peak hours to use alternative modes of transit to get on and off the island. So you'll see that in the plan as well. And those two areas, the buildings and transportation, that's really the focus for the greenhouse gas reduction side of the plan.

Liam Garland: If you look to the right there, now we're moving into adaptation and resiliency here. Because of climate change, we are going to have more intense storms and our storm water system is going to have to increase its capacity to deal with storm water. That's going to be one of the highest priorities coming out of the plan is to essentially update our out-of-date storm water system that does not have a sustainable funding source as we speak.

Liam Garland: The plan also identifies 11 high-priority flooding locations and these are areas where, at around 3 feet of sea level rise, we see significant impacts across the island. Now, a lot of people hear "sea level rise" and they think 10, 20, 30, 50, 100 years out. The plan makes an

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important point which is, this is not a future risk, this is a today and tomorrow risk. And by that, I don't mean that we're going to have 3 feet of sea level rise between today and tomorrow. It's that equivalent to 3 feet of sea level rise is a once in every 50-year storm.

Liam Garland: Let me say that again. So, in other words, 3 feet of sea level rise equals a once in every 50-year storm. So the folks who are thinking that sea level rise is an off in the distant risk, well, no, this is a risk today with a big enough storm. And so taking a crack at fixing some of these - I shouldn't say fixing - applying some measures to help protect from flooding in these 11 locations is going to go a long way to both the current risk and also that future risk.

Liam Garland: There'll be a fair amount in the plan related to drought, heat, and wildfire smoke, things that the current science tells us we are going to see more frequently. I'd imagine that that's a section that this commission, along with the discussions of flooding, I'd imagine that the commissions really want to get into the details on that because you'd imagine you're going to have Alameda's homeless, seniors, those with disabilities who might have unique vulnerabilities in some of those situations. Our plan is going to have a social vulnerability assessment. It will be one of the first few climate plans in the state to have one. So that's another area where I'd encourage you to drill in.

Liam Garland: Now, in the bottom third of the placemat, here's where we're really talking about the nuts and bolts. So on the lower left, you'll see the process laid out to get us here. It's been about a two-year process all started with a movement by the Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda to update our climate plan, went to City Council who gave it a 5-0 vote and said, "Hey, go out there and get this plan updated tomorrow."

Liam Garland: And it's culminating with, fingers crossed, an adopted plan by July 15th or 16th. There's been a lot of activity along the way. I'd say six or seven public workshops. We've convened a Task Force, we've got an internal green working team that's been meeting on a monthly basis, we've got the City Council who recently, on March 19th, declared a climate emergency. There have just been a lot of momentum and a lot of activity around this issue.

Liam Garland: I'd like to jump to the section related to input. Here, I've bolded the areas I think that are most important for the moment. This public comment period opens up on May 14th and May 31st. Some of you I believe have the one-page document, the flyer that is letting folks know about the opportunity for public comment. And then in bold, you've got a community workshop on May 20th, and that community workshop is from 6 to 8 at the Elks Lodge. So folks who don't feel comfortable providing their input on line can show up at the Elks Lodge and provide their input that way too. At the very bottom of that section, you've got the City Council date July 16th, 2019 when council will be considering adoption of the plan.

Liam Garland: We're close to concluding with a couple remarks. One is to think about the greenhouse gas reduction measures. And a lot of those measures are easier to take for folks of means, versus some of the more vulnerable in our community are going to have trouble taking some of those means. Not to put too blunt of a point on it, but not everybody can afford a Tesla or the charger that comes with the Tesla. And so that's something I'm hopeful to learn more about from

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this commission in the context of the review of these measures, where there might be some obstacles to implementing some of these greenhouse gas reduction measures. We'd love to learn more and get your input on that.

Liam Garland: Also, the plan is going to lay out how we're going to essentially achieve the goals in the plan and make progress on the measures that are laid out. A big part of that is going to be how we work together moving forward, and so the plan will propose a new full-time position of sustainability coordinator housed in the City Manager's office. And you might ask, "Why am I up here talking about the City Manager's office?" It's an important office, for sure. It's also because the City Manager's span of control is across the city. And again, why am I talking about that? Because climate change is something that is touching literally every department in the city and all of the different functions as it's touching all over our community. And so, having that full-time position in the city manager's office is an important way to make sure that the work that is in the plan that is spread among all of these departments actually gets done.

Liam Garland: The plan will also lay out having a new climate fund. Yet to be determined in terms of how we actually fund that climate fund, but it'd be a way for the city to show leadership in terms of a stake in the ground. We are going to put some resources into helping both on the greenhouse gas reduction side and on those adaptation projects. There'll be annual reporting required to the City Council, and this reporting's critical in the sense that's a chance for future City Council members to weigh in on how aggressive to be or whether we should be more aggressive or less than laid out in the plan. And so, there's lots of talking enthusiasm including with the climate emergency declaration about getting to net-zero emissions, and the plan will address some ways that we might get there. And then through the annual reporting to city council in the future, there'll be opportunity for the policymakers and help steer us on that path. With that, my presentation is concluded. I'm happy to answer any questions you've got.

Jennifer Barrett: Great, thank you so much. Commissioner Brillinger?

Arnold Brillinger: I just want to thank you for your presentation. I've been to several of the workshops and each time, you give us so much information. I see this as an educating the public. The average person just doesn't know and just doesn't understand how gross this is, and I'm very glad to have you come and present it to us. And we wish you good luck in doing so with the other boards and commissions, and to educate the public at large. Because I would like to see Alameda be at the front of things being changed just like we did with the visitability and universal design, that people can say, "Oh, Alameda already has these things in place, and we better get with it." Thank you.

Liam Garland: Commissioner, I really appreciate that comment. I hope, when you're reading the plan where you see that the plan and your mind falls short on providing that leadership position, you let us know and where it does achieve that vision of being a leader, you let us know that too.

Jennifer Barrett: Commissioner Deutsch?

Susan Deutsch: I just want to thank you. This was a very good presentation, and this is good

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information. And I'm looking forward to seeing the plan because I live in one of the flood zones.

Liam Garland: Hey, look at that.

Jennifer Barrett: Commissioner Linton?

Jenny Linton: I just want to say the same. I'm very glad to see the City of Alameda is doing this. Thank you for sharing your plan.

Liam Garland: Great.

Laurie Kozisek: Commissioner Kenny?

Beth Kenny: Thank you. As everyone has said, this is amazing. Yeah, you took us through so much in such a short time. It just shows the amount of work that everybody has been putting into this. And I think that you're right on about, we can definitely put some things in to add to the adaption and the resiliency part of this. I think also, when it comes to transportation, that's something that Commission is very much involved with. And we are open to different ideas, like a few meetings ago, we were talking about trying to get a disabled bike share program. So we're not just thinking of staying in the cars, but how we can make these things happen, so that they are accessible, these alternative ways are accessible to everybody. And carbon-neutral power by 2020, that blows my mind. Thank you.

Jennifer Barrett: Commissioner Hall?

Lisa Hall: Yes, as everyone agrees, we're all happy to be going green. We appreciate all your hard work that everyone's done. Because as you said, there's a lot of planning, it's been going on for a couple of years, and I think generally, the more people learn and understand, they realize we are in it now, it is not some far off. And I think, again, the younger generation that we see is so enlightened, more than we are, and that's a great thing because even at the high schools, they're doing things, that they're going green, more of our churches in Alameda are going green. Just so it's good, we're all hoping and we can all just be the big green hawk, and there you go.

Liam Garland: Can I have just a moment to share an observation? You'll see this as one of the bullet points under opportunities and challenges. I think we're in a unique moment in that there is greater awareness and if you look at some of the polling of Alamedans, there are a fair number of Alamedans who think that sea level rising and climate change are significant issues, that are either extremely important or at least somewhat important. I think the numbers are in the 50-60% range. That's an encouraging sign. I'm really curious to see where we go in the next few years, which is, at some point, you might have heard me talk about incentives likely to be offered through the plan or through various parts of city government to encourage electrification. Well, at some point, that discussion probably turns to requirements. And I'm excited and nervous just to see how that conversation changes and to make sure that the enthusiasm to go on the path we're going, that we don't lose that enthusiasm. Does that make sense?

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Jennifer Barrett: Yeah, definitely. I got the chance to go to one of your meetings, I think it was last fall. And it was so great to see that the room was jam-packed with fellow Alamedans who really care about this process. And this is awesome and I'm looking forward to reading and participating in the public comment. You kind of answered some of my questions in your last response, but what do you guys going to be doing for advertising once you have the plan finalized?

Liam Garland: Let me see, if I don't answer the question, then please let me know. We've gotten some feedback from the community of take the plan and boil it down to a one page, these are the actions you need to be able to do and have that be something that could be handed out to your neighbors. That is a piece of feedback that we have received and are thinking about. The plan won't deliver on that, as I heard somebody refer to it as the elevator pitch. The plan won't have that elevator pitch, but that is for sure something we're thinking about and potentially, by the time we're in front of council proposing the plan for adoption, that we would have that put together. Does that answer your question?

Jennifer Barrett: Yes, great. And then I also was wondering, I was curious about the incentives and laws, future laws. Unfortunately sometimes the only way we can get people to change is through those actions.

Liam Garland: Can I give an example? So I was just meeting with the realtors, just last week, and that scenario where I could see moving from incentives to requirements as well. Potentially some of these retrofits to electrify our buildings, potentially they're at the point of sale or the transfer of a property.

Jennifer Barrett: Right. I believe we have that for water, right?

Liam Garland: For our sewer laterals, yes.

Jennifer Barrett: Yes, and the amount of water that can be in every fixture. Yeah, so that would be cool to see that added in. Great. Thank you so much for coming.

Liam Garland: Thank you. Have a good night.

6. OLD BUSINESS

6-A Commission and Board Liaison Reports

Jennifer Barrett: Okay, we're going to move on to item number six, Old Business, Commission Board Liaison Reports. Commissioner Brillinger, do you have anything to report?

Arnold Brillinger: Not at this time.

Jennifer Barrett: Okay, great. Commissioner Deutsch?

Susan Deutsch: Well, I don't have a report on the Rec and Park, but I wanted to let the board know

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that at the end of June, I'm going to term out and I'm not going to be able to continue on the board. So there needs to be a new liaison person for Rec and Park.

Jennifer Barrett: Yeah, we wanted to thank you so much for your service. You've been a huge part of our commission and we really appreciate all the work that you've done. Do you want to do a small comment on the opening of the park that you spoke of?

Susan Deutsch: Oh, I thought I did that. It's the last meeting, but maybe I don't.

Jennifer Barrett: Okay. I think it was scheduled. Yeah, it went well.

Susan Deutsch: Yeah, it went very well. There were quite a few people there. The park is really great. It's accessible. There are parts that are accessible for kids in wheelchairs. I think there are some sensory components to the park, which would be, well, it's good for all kids, but kids with autism really benefit from sensory activities. And I just feel like it really is going to be a very inclusive park. And Amy Wooldridge said that people from outside of Alameda are coming to that park because it benefits their kids. And then the other thing that, they have some really interesting swings that they're putting up at the park for caregivers and babies where they can sit together on a swing.

Susan Deutsch: And then they do have swings where children can get buckled in. They didn't have the straps on that day, but Amy said they were going to be getting them. So it's a small park, but I think it's really nice.

Jennifer Barrett: That's great. And I was happy to see on the City Facebook page, they made a special comment about how it was accessible. And I know we talked about that at the last meeting, so that was great to see.

Susan Deutsch: Yes, I think it's nice. I'm looking forward to the next time my grandchildren visit to take them to that park.

Jennifer Barrett: Awesome. Thank you so much. Commissioner Linton?

Jenny Linton: Not at this time, except I need to schedule a visit to the park.

Jennifer Barrett: Commissioner Kenny?

Beth Kenny: I actually, when I was doing the sub-committee assignments, didn't assign myself one. So I'll be happy to take over Rec and Parks, but I will be sorry to lose you Commissioner Deutsch. I don't know how many people know, but you've been on this commission for more than two terms because she finished out somebody else's term. And she is the only commissioner who was there at the start of the Universal Design Ordinance, and saw that all the way through from start to finish. And you've taught me so much on this commission, so I will really miss you, and you've been a valuable member. I hope you'll still be involved with us.

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Susan Deutsch: Well, I hope to be involved in some way and I am going to miss being on the commission. I feel like there's always something unfinished, that you feel like you want to work on.

Beth Kenny: Yes. Well, thank you for all you've done, it's been amazing. So I did, however, attend the Alameda Special Education Parents Support Group resource fair. This, a couple of weeks ago, I don't have the exact date in my head right now, but it was really great. It's been something, this group has been around as a sub-committee of the Alameda PTA, and they've been around for over 20 years now, and are really a great group. And we have had a lot of contact with them and we want them to come in to be part of, to talk with our commission a little bit more about what they're doing and what they might need. I did meet a few people who I thought I would give off to other people here. I met a gentleman who, his son is on the spectrum, and is a student here in Alameda and he was taking his first bus rides to school on AC Transit, and his mother was helping him out, and he didn't want his mother to help him out anymore so the dad thought, is there any sort of mentorship program we could have? As our transportation commissioner, I thought I'd send him along, his information over to you, Commissioner Brillinger.

Arnold Brillinger: I welcome that.

Beth Kenny: Yeah, and I could really see something like this happening, and being great, if you could even get like work with the school and have a different kid from school help, mentor, how to use the school bus - how to use AC Transit and get to school? I thought that was a great idea. And then I heard from Griff Neal, who does Champion Soccer, which is a soccer league for kids with disabilities, both mental and physical, and he's interested in learning more about the commission and getting more in touch with the Rec Department. And so, I was going to pass him along to you, but I guess I'll keep him for myself now.

Beth Kenny: And then I met another woman who was asking about wheelchair swings and I was telling her about how you've had that discussion. Where the Parks Department has been great about making each new park a little bit more accessible. And, Commissioner Deutsch, you've spoken with Amy Wooldridge, the director of the parks, about getting a wheelchair swing. And I think it was at Estuary Park where there was talk about maybe doing that there?

Susan Deutsch: Well, I didn't speak to her about getting a wheelchair swing, but it's something that I've brought up on this commission that I haven't seen a wheelchair swing at most of the accessible parks that I've gone to. You do have to be able to lift your child out of the wheelchair and there is a swing that they can use, but you have to do that transfer.

Beth Kenny: Yes, so the community member who I spoke to, she said it's been a years-long project where she's been trying to get Alameda to get a wheelchair swing. And I mentioned the one at Little John and how that's not a full wheelchair swing, but it has a little bit more support and it's just missing the core support, I guess, from what she said.

Susan Deutsch: Oh, it didn't have enough support?

Beth Kenny: In the core she said, yes. I'm not quite sure...

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Susan Deutsch: It was missing the support straps. But Amy Wooldridge said they were going to get those straps, but maybe there isn't a strap that goes across the chest. Well, it could be addressed. If the child needs a strap across the chest, an added strap.

Beth Kenny: Okay. I'll be in touch with you about that, I'm sure.

Susan Deutsch: Because I have done a lot of seating and positioning for kids in wheelchairs.

Beth Kenny: Great, thank you. And then I sat next to this woman who is opening or just opened a business called "Swings and Wings" over by the Dollar Store and Dragon Rouge. And she was asking me about how she could make her business more accessible. And I said, "I have just the person for you, Commissioner Barrett, Chair Barrett." So, I will get her contact information to you.

Jennifer Barrett: Awesome, thank you so much. Commissioner Hall?

Lisa Hall: Okay, so let's see, housing. First off, I want to give a little report on the wonderful first season of the Warming Shelter, which was hosted at Christ Episcopal Church. It was ran by Building Futures and with a big amount of money from the City of Alameda and an overwhelming contribution of donations that we received so much over the time that we had to tell people to stop because it was just amazing. We had many different groups that volunteered, that was for the dinners that filled up right away. So we had church organizations, girl scouts, just all kinds of different community partnerships in Alameda that wanted to make dinners that we actually had to turn some people away again because there was just overwhelming.

Lisa Hall: The shelter was opened from December 6 through April 15, it was open 66 days. We provided 825 beds and we served regularly 89 clients that came back, many, many that were intake and were regular. Of those, we could easily say over 70% had a disability, many mental health disabilities, and then some people with other disabilities that came that were addressed. When they are taking the information on their intake, this is things we learn so we can also refer them to Family Services or through the county and other programs that work. And also Food Bank, we had certain people that came to the shelter, and even though they're considered transitional, they're transitional of Alameda, so they could come to the Alameda Food Bank and get food. So a lot of them are like, "Oh, I can't go." "Yeah, you can." So we could feed them again.

Lisa Hall: They also received dinners, and the night time, they had movies, they had just books, movies, different items, and then they had a small breakfast when they left every day. I'd say the best part about the shelter, the center for next year is we're going to have showers. God willing, it's all going to work out and the county/city money is going to come through and we are going to be adding a disabled shower and a regular shower in our parish hall where we host this right now. It'll be our janitorial closet, this is going to get converted. But that's a very big finish to the shelter, to feed someone, to give them a place to sleep. So they can actually get clean and feel wonderful. It's really a great program, I'm so happy that we did this. And thank you to all of Alameda and to everyone that contributed and looking forward to next year.

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Lisa Hall: And hopefully next year, we're going to have Monday being a "for sure no matter what." The opening was based on whether this percentage of rain was happening or certain things, but towards the middle of the way, we confirmed we would have every Monday night open until the shelter was closed. And then we had every Thursday was open for a while too. So next season hopefully, maybe we can have, depending on finance and whatnot, where we have two or three nights that we are guaranteed open, even if it's not raining or whatever. Depending on what? Because the need is definitely there. They were all very grateful, they were all very happy. They were so appreciative, I can't even tell you how many times people would thank you and just for the simplest things, to give them a pair of tennis shoes. Especially for the homeless people, socks and shoes, people, socks and shoes, it's unbelievable.

Lisa Hall: So that was wonderful and I just want to say thank you on that so much. The other item, housing item we have coming up is the Alameda Seniors and Disability Renters Committee of Alameda is putting on a free forum event. It is also "Affordable Housing Week" next week and EBHO and others are joined with the Gray Panthers, and the Alameda Senior Renters and Disability Commission came off of the Alameda Renters Coalition from a few years. So we have many... As someone mentioned, oftentimes, the disabled community and the senior community have many of the same challenges, it's ongoing. So this is a free event, it's Monday, pass it on, let people know. It's giving you more information also about what tenants and rights and just general housing and good information. And that is at the library, Monday, in the... Monday afternoon.

Lisa Hall: Rec and Park, I have to bring this up because our next meeting won't be till July. And once again for, I think it's a third year, Rec and Park does the most wonderful water walking class, of which I've gone for three years. And if you are a disabled person, this is the best kind of exercise you can get. Many doctors recommend, including my own doctor, okay? Because it's low impact and it is just a great program and it starts in June and it's been very successful with disabled and seniors, and I just want to put the word out there because I know how much I've enjoyed it and I want to get the word out because everybody that goes enjoys it and it feels great and it's affordable. Of course, it's less for seniors and disabled. So I want to mention one more item.

Lisa Hall: There was a wonderful lady and her name was Anita Silvers and she was local. And she just passed away, she was 78 years old, March 27th. She was a great disability advocate back when nobody ever heard of being a disabled advocate, and she fought to make the world accessible to all. If you have a chance, look up her name, Anita Silvers, she was quite an inspiring, wonderful woman. And I think that's all I have.

Jennifer Barrett: Great, thank you so much. I did volunteer one night at the Alameda Warming Shelter and I have to say that it was a great opportunity, so I encourage everyone else to go at least once. Everyone was so appreciative and it was just a great experience. I've had a pretty successful time with my initiative over the last two months. For those who don't know, I've created a little guide for our businesses in Alameda to encourage them to make small changes, to make their businesses more accessible, whether it be changing out door hardware, adding grab bars in your restrooms.

Jennifer Barrett: I spoke to Janet Magleby of the Downtown Alameda Business Association and

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she's shared my information with their newsletter that comes out monthly. And I'll also be speaking at their happy hour next week, so looking forward to meeting some businesses at that event. I emailed with Amanda who's in the Façade Grant Program, and I asked her if we could have some way that accessibility could be part of that Façade Grant or if there was some way that we could have our own grant to increase accessibility. She said that she's working with the committee to have a meeting to discuss this. So I'm waiting to hear back on that which is very positive, I'm excited about that.

Jennifer Barrett: And then, one of Janet's ideas was to have maybe a seminar. I guess they've done with all the business groups in the past and they have one coming up in May where they're having a seminar on the minimum wage increase. And so the thought is maybe we would be able to have a seminar where we talk about ADA adaptation and encourage businesses to make those changes. So, I reached out to Lois Butler, who's with the Economic Development division of the city, and she's supposed go get back to me on possibly setting one of those up. So, that's also very exciting.

Jennifer Barrett: Another idea is if we can find businesses who are interested in learning more, that myself or someone else, we can go to the business and kind of give them a brief little assessment of a few minor changes that they can make if they're willing. So it kind of goes along with the business that you mentioned. And then finally, Audrey Lord-Hausman, who was a former commissioner, she reached out about the Carnegie Building project, which will be starting soon and it's going to be a great space for the community of Alameda. And she just thought that it might be nice if we could reach out to the planning committee for that and make sure that they're doing every effort to make it an accessible building that's enjoyable for all. I know there's an elevator in the building that's not currently functional, so we want to definitely make sure that that's up to code.

Beth Kenny: Is this the old library?

Jennifer Barrett: Yes. It would be great if we could show them some universal design ideas for commercial building.

Beth Kenny: I did attend one of their community meetings.

Jennifer Barrett: Oh great.

Beth Kenny: And the elevator actually did come up. It's under ADA they have to bring that up.

Jennifer Barrett: Great.

Beth Kenny: And I think the one area that I had of concern, and this was just at a community meeting, was that there are going to be the space is going to be flexible, so I think they want to redesign it for whatever occasion is happening and that sounds great. We just want to make sure they remember, leave enough space for wheelchairs and the different needs that people have. But at the meeting, they did have a sign language interpreter. So it seems like they would be very open to hearing from us.

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6-B Sub-Committee Assignments

Jennifer Barrett: Awesome, that's great to hear, thank you. Okay, we'll move on to item 6B, sub-committee assignments. We went through kind of our committee updates, and I believe everyone's set on the assignments that we did during the retreat. But please correct me if I'm wrong, or if you have any comments.

Beth Kenny: There was just one question with Commissioner Linton. Are you wanting to stay on with the City Council as your assignment or did you want to do SSHRB, Social Service Human Relations Board? The new Commissioner, Commissioner Morrison has expressed interest in either one of those. So I wasn't sure if you wanted to stay on, because you had left before we had this conversation at the retreat. That's the only reason why I'm asking.

Jenny Linton: No the new commissioner should take the City Council.

Beth Kenny: Okay.

6-C Letter to the AUSD SPED Director Re Program Move

Jennifer Barrett: Great, thank you, Commissioner Kenny, for bringing that up. I appreciate it. Okay, I want to move on to action item 6c, which is the letter to the Alameda Unified School District, Special Education Department program move. This came up as part of a newspaper article that Commissioner Aghapekian brought to our attention during the last meeting. So I'll just roll right into what I have.

Jennifer Barrett: Commissioner Morrison and I worked on a letter that you see here, that was also sent to all of the commissioners. It's part of the attachment. We are very concerned by the newspaper article and how this transition occurred, and so we reached out to Miss Forester about the move and to clarify what, the concerns that we had, we had six questions that we had asked her to answer. Unfortunately, Miss Forester was not able to attend this meeting and did not respond to the six questions, but we did receive feedback from Kristen Zazo who's part of the Alameda Unified School District. She met with Commissioner Morrison and they had a very productive meeting.

Jennifer Barrett: And so I want to say that I was not present at the meeting. So anything that I am sharing with you guys is information that I've gotten from Commissioner Morrison. So I'm going to do my best to summarize. But again, I was not, I was not present unfortunately. So I want to start off with why the move happened. There was an absence in the classroom teacher at Lincoln Middle School for over four months and the Alameda Unified School District was having trouble securing a long-term substitute teacher. There were very many inconsistencies, where they were getting a new substitute teacher almost daily. And this is, as you can see, very disruptive for the children. And so what Miss Zazo communicated to us was that many of the Lincoln Middle School families were very happy with the decision to move. The decision to move, came from the fact that there was enough room in the Wood Middle School classrooms to incorporate these Lincoln Middle School students. Which would give them a consistent atmosphere.

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Jennifer Barrett: And they were notified, the Lincoln Middle School families were notified about a month ahead of time with meetings, etcetera. And so that they were very aware of the move and they were positive about it. On the other hand, the Wood Middle School, parents were not notified until a week beforehand. And so it may have come as a shock to them that the move was happening. And in retrospect Miss Zazo said that she would communicated that more in advance. So with the move, it is doubling the class size of the Wooden Middle School, they have two classes currently, but it's below the requirement of the permissible amount of students in a classroom. They moved from one classroom had four students, and one had six, and now they have nine and 10 students.

Jennifer Barrett: To make the move more successful, they are, all of the supporting adults who were in the previous class at Lincoln Middle School, have joined the Wood Middle School programs so that they are very familiar with those students. They brought pieces of the classroom with them to kind of help support those new students and then they had an additional teacher on special assignments for two weeks as part of that transition. She mentioned that the transition was difficult for the students, but that things have settled down since then. And she said that the Alameda Unified School District is continuing to meet with parents. There were two families at the Wood Middle School and one of the Lincoln who were still very concerned with the situation. So, she said that they are meeting regularly. And they hope that this summer they'll make a few changes to the classrooms to make it a better environment for the students.

Jennifer Barrett: So just to briefly cover the questions that we had asked. They went over this, Commissioner Morrison and Miss Zazo, during their meeting. What actions if any, were taken in advance of the classroom relocation to prepare students at both schools? As I mentioned, Lincoln Middle School was given about a month. Those family members knew about it, and then WMS parents, they had known one week before with writing. Question two, what was the need or rationale for moving the students from Lincoln to Wood? As we, I discussed earlier this is what the teacher role was unfilled.

Jennifer Barrett: And then if any, were parents given to discuss the move before that occurred for Lincoln Middle School. Yes, and for WMS not as much as they probably should have been given. How did Alameda Unified School District prepare students at both schools for the move? They did not have a field trip or any introduction to the school. They said that many of the students are severely disabled and they weren't able to verbally communicate the information so they relied on the parents to do so. And then following the move, what actions did they take individually with students and the school community at large to help students integrate into the new setting?

Jennifer Barrett: As I had mentioned earlier, they have the classroom aids and some objects that they've brought along with them. I didn't see anything about the school community at large, so I'm not able to comment on that. What changes if any, has the school district implemented to ensure parents are given adequate advanced notice, to plan changes? This is where she acknowledged that in hindsight, they would have given more notice. And then what has the school district done to repair its relationships with the parents of the impacted students? And this was where she continued to meet with the families and address individual student needs during their routine IEP meetings. So that's what I have. Feel free to open up to comments from you guys.

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Susan Deutsch: I have a question. Will the children be returned to Lincoln Middle School next year when this class is filled, when this teacher space is filled?

Jennifer Barrett: I am not sure. Let me write that down as a question.

Lisa Hall: I think that's really, that it was a very good letter that you and Leslie did and was well-needed. And I think Victoria, and they should have known better, and they're back-tracking now, and hopefully going forward is that's all we can do now. But it is horrible, it really was and it was inexcusable. And especially when you're dealing with such fragile children, and so I think your letter was well written and I hope that it definitely sparked a fire under them, and that something like this would never happen again because something similar to this happened about, I don't know, a few years back. Temporarily they moved some kids and the whole kind of temporary thing so, hopefully this will never happen again.

Jenny Linton: It used to be commonplace.

Jennifer Barrett: Are there any additional items that we want to follow up on, or other than, I'll try to get your question answered but, any ideas for a response or anything else, any other concerns that we want to bring up?

Beth Kenny: I just have a question. In the pack, on the agenda it had two letters, and both of them were letters we sent out, but was there a response letter in between time?

Jennifer Barrett: Yes, there was a response by Miss Forester.

Beth Kenny: If we could get that, I would like to see that as well at some point.

Lisa Hall: I thought there wasn't a written.

Jennifer Barrett: It was just a brief email saying that she couldn't attend the meeting.

Lisa Hall: Well, do you think it would be prudent to ask for a written response?

Jennifer Barrett: Yes, I can ask for a formal response.

Lisa Hall: I think that should be the least they can do.

Jennifer Barrett: Yes, I did ask her to answer the six questions, and I never got a response on that, so we can definitely ask for an official response. And then I think it's definitely important to see what they're going to be doing next fall because I know that they had the additional teacher, and then they had some additional help that would be lasting through the summer, but I don't know what the plan is going to be for the coming school year.

Beth Kenny: This is slightly not what we're talking about right here, but in making this contact it would be good because I'm thinking back to our climate change and adaptation. I think we really do

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want to be looking at things like what's the plan for emergencies in students with disabilities, stuff like that.

Jennifer Barrett: Definitely. Okay. Any other comments.

Arnold Brillinger: Just a question to you, Jen. Did you go by and see that thing, open the window?

Jennifer Barrett: Oh, no, I haven't gotten a chance to. Thank you for the reminder, I'm going to take a look at that. Did you, Laurie? The CASP, the Certified Accessibility Specialist, I guess there was one of the flyers in one of the businesses, but it wasn't signed.

Arnold Brillinger: Right, but it's got the establishment's name in it, and by looking at it, you get the impression that it's been okay, and everything has been checked out.

Laurie Kozisek: I need an address, so I can go look at it. Or company name?

Arnold Brillinger: It's the fourth, I think it was the fourth business on Park Street from the B of A. Catty-corner from B of A. So you go to that opposite corner, and then you go down Park Street and it's right there on the window. I think it was the fourth business.

Laurie Kozisek: Okay, I'll look into it.

6-D Roberts Rules Refresher - Minutes

Jennifer Barrett: Okay. Item number 6-D, Robert's Rules refresher. Minutes.

Laurie Kozisek: Okay. I gave you all a printed version of this. Evidently, there was some question last meeting as to how to properly do minutes. So I looked it up and just want to give it to you quickly. Essentially, and you can read through this. There are different ways to accept the minutes. You can say, "May I have a motion to accept the minutes as distributed or as corrected." And someone responds, "I move to accept the minutes as of this date as corrected." Another one says, "I second. All in favor say aye." And everyone says, Aye. And that passes unanimously. That's kind of the traditional way to do it, but also the chair can just say, "Well, if there's no further corrections, the minutes are approved as distributed and corrected."

Laurie Kozisek: And if nobody says anything, that's considered to be that you obtained unanimous consent. And so I think we've been doing a mixture of the two. But these are the two official ways to do it. The other thing I wanted your input on is, do you want to continue doing the verbatim minutes, that we've got? Robert's Rules only requires that we say, "These people were present. Somebody moved for this motion and these people voted for it." And that's all you have to have in there. Whereas I gave you a sample here of the minutes for the Transportation Commission where somebody has essentially, I guess, they went through the video or took notes really fast, and essentially summarized what each person said. It was of importance to them.

Laurie Kozisek: Your bylaws say, in general, minutes will be summary only, and not verbatim

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recordation of all discussions during commissions. These minutes will include speakers on every question and the basic position taken on the issues addressed. A Commissioner may with consent of the Commission have a written abstract of his statement, entered in the records. So the question is: Which do you want me to continue to do?

Beth Kenny: I first have another question for you. I believe that the question about the minutes came up at the last meeting because Commissioner Brillinger noticed that we hadn't actually done anything to approve the minutes for the September meeting. Is that correct, Commissioner Brillinger?

Arnold Brillinger: Yes.

Beth Kenny: So we still need to approve those minutes from the September meeting.

Laurie Kozisek: I'll look into.

Beth Kenny: So we can go on the next agenda, and we can just do it then that would be great.

Laurie Kozisek: Okay.

Beth Kenny: And then just to give people background on why we went to the transcription. It was before you were our staff person and the idea was that our staff person at the time was having a lot of trouble, it was taking up a lot of the limited time that she had to do our minutes and what we thought this was going to be a time saver. And from my discussions with you, it seems like it takes the same amount of time to fix the transcriptions than it does to just do the minutes. Is that correct?

Laurie Kozisek: Yes, it takes a few hours to fix the transcriptions because a lot of times they say, "Speaker one, speaker two," because they can't tell, you don't move your lips enough, and Anto never speaks into the microphone, so it's always "unintelligible", and I have to read his lips and figure out what he said. So it does take a few hours to clean those up and take out the "alrights" and "uhms" and "likes" and make it a little more professional. It would take longer to do one like the sample, I think, where I'd have to essentially listen to the hour and a half and formulate a condensed version of what everyone said. So neither way is easy.

Beth Kenny: And then with our video because the video is also available next to the minutes on the... And I know our minutes are archived, are those videos archived in the same manner as our minutes?

Laurie Kozisek: Yes.

Beth Kenny: Then I would just propose that we do what's simplest but that's just my thoughts.

Susan Deutsch: I agree. We should do what's simpler for you.

Jennifer Barrett: Right. because I think the whole idea is that we get the minutes for the previous

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meeting at the next meeting.

Laurie Kozisek: Yes, because in some cases I can't get the transcription quickly because they'll put it in the queue and then they'll finally look at it and say, "I need more money, this is going to take a while," and then they go through and it might take two or three weeks to do it in some cases. I wasn't able to make a turn-around fast enough.

Beth Kenny: Yeah, especially with the video being right there available, we can always make some sort of announcement or see if there's anybody who would miss it. Let people know that if for some reason you can't access the video we can provide you with a more detailed minutes, but here are the minutes.

Laurie Kozisek: Yes, but one reason that we were doing the transcript, is because it was close captioning essentially of the minutes. I don't know how many people actually needed that but it was there. So is your direction...?

Jennifer Barrett: I think the summary would be great, but if it's not saving any time, maybe evaluate if there's any thought that you put into whether it's which version is longer. I think our general consensus is that we just want to make sure that whatever is easiest for you is given so that we are able to have the minutes in a timely manner. I think that's our biggest concern. So I think maybe we don't vote on that tonight and we just check back in on it for the next meeting. Does anyone have anything?

Beth Kenny: And I actually don't know that we need to vote on that. To switch to the transcription was a decision that Kerry Parker and I made on our own. And I think those sort of decisions can be made at the chair staff level.

Jennifer Barrett: Okay, and it is currently in our bylaws to have the summarized version. So if we change back to that, so I would just say, Yes, just review.

Laurie Kozisek: How about if I try doing at this time and see how it works? Keep track of my time.

Jennifer Barrett: Okay, that sounds good. Thank you so much, we really appreciate all the work that you put into that, and so we appreciate that. Okay, item number seven, staff communications.

7. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Laurie Kozisek: Evidently on the one time that I wasn't there. You had a lot of questions for Laurie. I did like a word search on Laurie, and it was like 26 times I came up. I was like, "Let's ask Laurie". So I summarized those and I will try to go through them if it opens.

Lisa Hall: How many pages was it ... I just read the minutes. Was it like 28 pages? Yes, from our meeting, that's 28 pages, yes. That's a lot.

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Jennifer Barrett: And we didn't even have any guest speakers.

Laurie Kozisek: Okay. Question for Laurie. Can staff just summarize the meeting in the minutes? Yes, we talked about that. Were the minutes approved? I will check. No, November was approved, that was on your list, but I'll check September.

Laurie Kozisek: Pamphlets are needed to hand out regarding the commission.

Jennifer Barrett: So this was in regards to Susan Deutsch, you were going to the Little John opening, and we weren't sure if there were still pamphlets that discussed the commission.

Susan Deutsch: Yes, I picked them up from Laurie. Then I gave them to Beth.

Laurie Kozisek: So you do have them, you have them.

Susan Deutsch: The box is here tonight, it's not a pamphlet, it's a one-page sheet that talks about the commission.

Laurie Kozisek: Okay. Can you set up tables and sit at the events during the business hours? No. Sorry. If you would like to do it, you can.

Susan Deutsch: No, I set up the table. I set up the table at this. I never asked you to do that. So I don't know why that's there.

Laurie Kozisek: Okay, okay. I misheard it or Liz misheard it. Okay. Get WABA [West Alameda Business Association] and DABA [Downtown Alameda Business Association] on the agenda to hear about this accessibility.

Jennifer Barrett: I think this is okay because I've reached out to them independently. And also the Façade grant, we're all set with that too.

Laurie Kozisek: And I'm going to meet with Amanda Gherkin about Façade also. We're sort of going from different angles. Point of contact on the city regarding Homeless Outreach, community development. There is a group that's working on Homeless Outreach, and it includes Amanda Gherkin, again.

Jennifer Barrett: Okay.

Lisa Hall: And Doug Biggs.

Laurie Kozisek: Number eight, who can help Alameda with its own mental health like Berkeley Mental Health? I think that question was, the person that spoke this time was Alameda County, and we are wondering if there is an Alameda City one. I don't know of anything like that.

Jennifer Barrett: Okay.

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Laurie Kozisek: Follow up on the census meetings. I have not been able to go to any census meetings. Did one of you want to take on the census?

Jennifer Barrett: Leslie Morrison has been going to those.

Laurie Kozisek: Okay. Good. Develop messages and Laurie will push them to the public information officer who will then put them out on Facebook, Twitter, whatever, but that would be a good way to do it, is to give me the messages and she'll wordsmith them and send them out. And there's many, many followers, thousands of followers, so it's a good way to send things out. A more accessible city website. Yes. I agree. I've tried.

Lisa Hall: The work in progress.

Laurie Kozisek: Yes. I've sent hopeful little messages about. Oh, your meeting was in the [Alameda] Sun on May 2nd, and the openings were on the front page, that they want more people to fill that. So you got in two places in the Sun, so it is happening.

Lisa Hall: And we wanted to be every time, right?

Laurie Kozisek: Well, I don't know if it's every time, but I checked this one, and it was in there.

Lisa Hall: because I can make that happen. Right, my daughter works for the Sun. She can just put it in their system, I'll say, "These are our meetings. Make sure you put them in there."

Laurie Kozisek: Yes.

Beth Kenny: I think the specific question was to... Thank you for getting it in the Sun.

Laurie Kozisek: I didn't do it, it just appeared.

Beth Kenny: But it was to include in the message that goes in the Sun our email address, so that if anyone has any questions, they can email them and get them into us that way.

Laurie Kozisek: I'll see what I can do. I can also ask the PIO to push something out and say, "Hey. Here's another way we can keep you informed." How many units have been built or are being built in the Universal Design Ordinance? I don't know, I will check into that.

Beth Kenny: I think I can. Well, none have been built so far. They've been passed, but there are no places that we can go visit right now. It's the [name?] I forget the number, it's something I want to say around 200-300 of them will be universally designed. It was a crazy number when I actually calculated it out. And all of them will be visitable and that's, I think like 800 units around there. But the projects have been approved and they haven't had any pushback as far as people asking for exemptions to the Universal Design Ordinance. But these things all take years. There is nothing built right now, that wasn't done before the Universal Design Ordinance with an eye towards the

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Universal Design Ordinance, but officially under the Universal Design Ordinance nothing so far.

Lisa Hall: But I do believe some of the ones at Alameda Point side A will be, right? You have designated a certain amount, right?

Beth Kenny: Yes.

Laurie Kozisek: And I think we went over number 14 already. So did you have any other questions for me to look into?

Jennifer Barrett: I had one that just slipped my mind. So, thank you Laurie, we appreciate that. Oh, I do have one question. Can you further explain them, the money that was available for advertising for the accessibility with businesses?

Laurie Kozisek: Okay. California has the Certified Access Specialist. I'm one, one of our plan checkers is one, and there a bunch of them that are freelance. And the program is to do kind of what Jen is doing, but more as a business. You go in, you the person pays a certain amount, and they get an official sign, or somebody got an unofficial one. But they're supposed to get an official sign saying, "This has been reviewed by CASp." And they don't say if you pass or not. They just say it's been reviewed or inspected, but it's a good first step. And then if someone is sued for lack of access, they can say, "Hey, but I already went to a CASp. And I'm working on it."

Laurie Kozisek: So, it'll look a lot better for them. They'll have much lower fines if they do that. I believe there's like \$1 for every time you renew your business license, \$1 goes into this fund for advertising the availability of this program. And it's got tens of thousands of dollars sitting in there. They could be used to let people know about this program to encourage them. And also, I talked to our building official, and he has some kind of a flyer that he gives out to everybody who gets a building permit, saying, "Here. This CASp thing is available."

Beth Kenny: Can we find out more about the parameters? I think that we talked at the retreat about is there any way we could do some sort of matching funding, or where some of this money. It doesn't have to be specifically for advertising, or can it be used to help these business? Can we do something where we can match or provide some funding towards businesses getting the low-hanging fruit?

Laurie Kozisek: Kind of like a Façade grant?

Beth Kenny: What are the parameters of accessing this money? How do we get it? Can we find out a little bit more about it?

Jennifer Barrett: And who's supposed to be in charge of spending the money? Because I assume if there's a reason that they're collecting it, that there should be some kind of output that's required.

Laurie Kozisek: Okay, I can look into that.

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COMMISSION ON DISABILITY
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, May 8, 2019, 6:30 PM

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jennifer Barrett: Great, thank you. Okay, item number eight, announcements.

Laurie Kozisek: Yes, I have. Or I guess that's still staff communications. I only got three certificates about the ethics. I gave Commissioner Hall a paper copy. I have two more paper copies if someone really doesn't want to do the computer one. Computer one's free. The paper one, you read it and then you send in 50 bucks and you get your certificates. And then we reimburse you. So, it's up to you which way you want to do it, but I have the paper one. Did you want one Commissioner Brillinger?

Arnold Brillinger: Is this about AB 1234?

Laurie Kozisek: Yes.

Arnold Brillinger: I gave you a signed one.

Laurie Kozisek: Oh, right. I did get yours. And I don't need Commissioner Deutsch's, but I still need a few more.

Jenny Linton: I sent you one today.

Laurie Kozisek: I got yours. I'm not saying who I didn't get one from. Okay, I think that's all.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Jennifer Barrett: Okay. So, item number nine, adjournment of the meeting. I would like to call for the adjournment of the meeting. Do I have a second?

Lisa Hall: I'll second.

Jennifer Barrett: Okay, all in favor? Aye.

All: Aye.

Jennifer Barrett: Okay, thank you guys so much.