

ITEM 2-C
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY
MEETING MINUTES OF
Saturday, February 9, 2019

Location: Mastic Senior Center, 1155 Santa Clara Ave, Room D, Alameda, CA

Time: 10:15 AM – 2:01 PM

Commissioners Present: Chair Elizabeth Kenny, Vice Chair Jenn Barrett; Commissioners Anto Aghapekian, Arnold Brillinger, Susan Deutsch, Lisa Hall, Jenny Linton, Leslie Morrison and Jennifer Roloff.

Others Present: City Staff Jackie Krause and Laurie Kozisek. No members of the public attended.

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

This was moved to later in the meeting, after item 2.D.

2. COMMISSION BUSINESS

2.A. and 2.B. Brown Act and Sunshine Ordinance

Commissioners addressed limitations regarding endorsements and support of ballot measures and elections. The Commission may listen to a speaker and make a recommendation to City Council regarding a subject, since the Commission was started as an advisory group for the Mayor, but cannot urge the public to vote in one way or another. Commissioners may express political opinions on their own, outside of the meeting, if they make it clear that they speak as individuals and not as representatives of the Commission.

The Commission discussed ways that they can have more opportunities to advise the Council and other boards and commissions. Each commissioner has been assigned one or more boards and commissions to attend and in which to be a representative of the Disability Commission. Staff member Kozisek will forward lists of upcoming issues. This will be a standing agenda item. One initial approach may be to speak to the Planning Board quarterly.

2.C. Parliamentary Procedures

No discussion.

2.D. Bylaws

The Bylaws should be changed in all citations from “Commission on Disability Issues” to the newer “Commission on Disability”. Section 2 mentions the wrong number of commissioners. The concept of a pair of co-chairs, rather than one chair and one vice chair, was discussed, and what would trigger “incapacity” and “delegation” of the chair to the vice chair. The general consensus was to keep the chair and vice chair positions, so that the chair can be the official figurehead, but to informally have the chair and vice chair share the chair’s workload.

ITEM 2-C
COMMISSION ON DISABILITY
MEETING MINUTES OF
Saturday, February 9, 2019

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Commissioners introduced themselves and told why they were involved in disability issues. There were no members of the public present.

2. COMMISSION BUSINESS (CONTINTUED)

2.E. Future Projects, Goals and Assignments

Commissioners reviewed the list of previous speakers and discussed their highest concerns, including the 2020 Census outreach, voter access, the Commission website, homelessness, climate change, and mental health services and support.

The Commission would like to hear from Alameda (County) Family Services – mental health services – for schools, adults, and homeless populations.

The Commission was reminded that elections will be in the next meeting, that the current chair would be stepping down, and what the duties of the new chair would be.

Subcommittees assignments were reviewed and updated.

2.F. Discussion Questions

The Commissioners stated that what works well is that they have great speakers, have many different views, and reach out to the community.

The Commissioners would like to see more follow through, maybe focus speakers on one or two priorities for the year, encourage the speakers to have action items in their presentations, create subcommittees tasked to come up with action items or agendas, and participate in more outreach events.

There was not complete consensus on where to focus for the next 12 months, but the most popular were Census 2020, accessible housing, mental health, disable homeless services, emergency prep, climate change, housing, disability rights, community engagement, visitability of housing, grants for ADA upgrades (like façade grants and grab bar grants), more automatic doors, better policing of disabled parking usage, and wheelchair breakdown services.

The Commission would like to see a webpage with local resources, a Facebook presence, if that complies with the Brown Act, or contributions to the City website and Facebook page. The Commission considered having monthly meetings, or having subcommittees meet on the alternate months. They would like to know how many people are viewing their meeting videos.

Adjourned at 2:01 PM