

City of Sacramento
Disabilities Advisory Commission [DAC]

MEETING MINUTES

February 21, 2008 @ 6:00 P.M.
New City Hall, 915 I Street, 1st Floor Conference Room -1104

Present: Commissioners: Bain, Benson, Brown, Correia, Kysor, Riker, Skierka, Thom, and Springer.
Excused: N/A
Absent: N/A
Commission Staff: Obi Agha, City of Sacramento, EEO/ADA Program.
Presenters: N/A
Guest: N/A

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by the Chair, Commissioner Jeff Thom.

2. Roll Call of Members:

Mr. Thom conducted a roll call of the members and welcomed the new Commissioner Dawn Correia.

3. Agenda Review:

Mr. Thom reviewed the February 21, 2008 agenda. The meeting Agenda order was rearranged to accommodate the presenters. Agenda item 6 was heard before item 5 [Committee Report and Meeting]. Commissioner Brown made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Riker. Motion passed.

4. Approval of Minutes:

The meeting minutes of January 24, 2008 was approved. Commissioner Springer made the motion to approve minutes, and was seconded by Commissioner Kysor. Commissioners Bain and Brown abstained. Motion passed.

5. Committee Report and Meeting:

The Physical Access, Program Access and Outreach /Education (O&E), Subcommittees updated their respective Committee activities.

Commissioners Bain, Physical Access [PA] Chair reported that, in order to better manage and effectively tackle and focus on prioritization of the Physical Access work plan [brought forth during the Strategic Planning workshop conducted on October 8, 2007], the PA agreed to consolidate the five goals into two categories. Housing goals and Access goals; working with City Planning and Department of Transportation respectively.

Commissioner Thom, chair the Program Access Subcommittee stated that his committee will not meet on February 27, 2008 due to the "Access Town Hall Forum" Meeting scheduled the same date.

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Commissioner Springer recapped the outcome of the February 4, 2008 meeting of the Outreach and Education Subcommittee. She stated her subcommittee has been discussing the DAC Newsletter development and sought ideas from Commissioner. According to Ms. Springer some of the questions that have been raised are as follows:

- a. What would the Content of the Newsletter look like?
- b. What would be the method of disseminating information of the Newsletter?
- c. How do DAC messages reach the various City Departments?
- d. Role of the Commissioners relative to the DAC Ordinance?
- e. How to utilize the City public media (websites, postings, news letters, etc.) to write up disabilities related articles, including announcements.

6. Staff Report

DOT / Access Update:

- (a) Rocky Burks, Physical Access Manager with City Department of Transportation (DOT) discussed the City coordination with Regional Transit in regards to Light Rail Station(s) code compliant Detectable Warning Surface. Mr. Burks referenced, in his discussion, a Document titled "Pedestrian Rail Crossings Design" by California Public Utilities Commission [CPUC].

Commissioners expressed various concerns of pedestrian safety on rail road crossing and particularly the rail crossing at the 15th and 16th street corridor. Safety issues and suggested recommendations to persons with visual impairments ["guide dog" vs. "white cane" users], were emphasized. Bringing the "Society of the Blind" to participate in recommending solution were sought by members of the Commission.

Rocky, suggested that DAC may consider joining forces with the Regional Transit Advisory Board and coordinate projects of similar interests and stakes, to avoid waste in dollars and human resources.

- (b) Mr. Rocky Burks, on discussing the "Use of Barden Monies, explained that 20% of Measure "A" fund is allocated towards Barden. Rocky emphasized that lately, the portion of Measure A - transportation monies have been reduced due to the voters wishes. Consequently, the monies towards Barden have seen a net reduction.
- (c) The Memorial Auditorium "Bus drop-off" presentation was moved back to March 20th 2008 DAC meeting.

City ADA Office:

Staff updated the Commissioners on recent City Equal Opportunity [EO] Office activities relative to Disabilities and Access issues.

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- (a) Michael Paravagna reported the EO office had rolled out a Department Program Access Coordination Team [PACT], to enable the EO office in its goal to "build capacity" within City Departments and better address access issues, including ADA and Disabilities matters. Commissioner Thom would like the survey documents utilized for PACT sent to the Program Access Subcommittee members.
- (b) Staff reminded the Commissioners of the February 27, 2008 Access Town Hall Forum scheduled from 4:30 - 6:00PM at the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency [SHRA], 600 I Street.
- (c) Mr. Paravagna reported that about 6 different courses have been developed for the City University. Training course ranges from General ADA Compliance, Employment Law, Accessibility Meeting Requirements and Disabilities Awareness.
- (d) Staff reported the EO office have submitted three priority ADA Facility projects to City Department of General Services that are ready for "Barrier Removal" [cost estimating, bidding and construction]. The facilities are Robert Community Center - Phase III, Sierra 2 Center Phase III [Curtis Hall new / Expanded Restroom], and Discovery Museum Science (DM Science) Phase III. The DM Science project may be reconsidered due to a proposed plan to move the operation of this Museum to a different location.
- (e) Library "Street Furniture" Issues:
Mr. Donald Tucker, Director of Facilities, Sacramento Public Library, discussed the proposal and three possible options of improving the I Street Main Entrance to the Central Library [828 I Street]. The options described by Mr. Tucker comprised of combination of removal and replacement of the existing wooden benches and the sidewalk trees. Mr. Tucker referenced, in his discussion, a December 19, 2007 report "submitted by" [Sacramento Public Library with assistance from Sacramento Police Department, Offices of the District Attorney, Sacramento County and Downtown Sacramento Partnership]. Mr. Tucker indicated that the Library would like to remove the benches located on the North side of the Main Library and sought the support of the DAC. Donald Tucker reported that the Library Organization had spoken to the County DAC, Council Member Tretheway, and went on to cite a survey result conducted by the City Police Department that indicated that only 7% of the total bench users were library customers on the dates the survey were conducted.

Mr. Tucker said that eventually this project [The I Street Entrance to the Central Library] would be presented to the Sacramento City Council.

Commissioner Kysor made a motion to support the Library quest to reduce the number of bench lines on the I Street side of the Central Library building, and to refer this project to the Physical Access [PA] Subcommittee. PA would bring

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recommendations to the full DAC. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bain.

After much discussion amongst the Commissioners, the motion passed. Commissioner Riker abstained.

7. Public Comment - Items

Public comments were taken. Debra "Red" Banes, a City Planning Commissioner member brought forth an apparent inadequate "accessible" parking around City Hall. Staff will follow up with City Parking Division.

8. Ideas, Comments and Announcements of the Commission

Staff reported the resignation of Commissioner Gerald "Jerry" Sylvia from DAC effective February 14, 2008. According to City Clerks Office, application for his spot would open March 5, 2008 and close April 4, 2008.

Staff briefed the Commissioners of the March 20, 2008 full DAC agenda. Obi Agha reported that three projects are slated to be presented at the meeting. General Plan [Housing Element], Memorial Auditorium Lighting & Landscape and the Florin Road Corridor [FRC] project. Staff asked the Commissioner if they might consider pushing back one of the presentations, possibly FRC project to the April 17, 2008 DAC meeting, to enable them provide adequate feedback to staff.

Staff informed the Commissioners that Diane Hartline, the City E- Government Manager had updated the City Public website (Internet), as well as adding the "Text Only" features.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 P.M. Moved by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Kysor

Respectfully Submitted:

Obi Agha, Program Specialist
Equal Opportunity / ADA Program