

City of Fresno
Disability Advisory Commission
DRAFT - UNAPPROVED
Minutes of the February 14, 2023 Meeting

Commission Members Present: Chair Ken Elvington, Vice Chair Nicole Turpin, Commissioner Dr. Jenelle Pitt Parker, Commissioner Bill Hyatt, Commissioner Susan Coulter (11:45 am)

Excused: Commissioner Frances Reyes Acosta

Subcommittee Members Present: Member Marla Williams, Member Yonas Paulos

ADA Coordinator: Joe Hinojosa

DAC Secretary: Diane Longoria

1. Call to Order.

Chair Ken Elvington called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM. Self-introductions were made. Chair Ken Elvington reviewed meeting logistics.

2. Approval of the Agenda.

Chair Ken Elvington asked for a motion to approve the agenda. By motion of Commissioner Jenelle Pitt Parker and seconded by Vice Chair Nicole Turpin. The agenda was approved as written by unanimous vote.

3. Approval of the Minutes

ID 23-266: Approval of the January 10, 2023, Regular DAC Meeting Minutes.

By motion of Vice Chair Nicole Turpin and seconded by Commissioner Bill Hyatt, the minutes were approved as written.

4. Member Reports and Comments

Chair Ken Elvington made some announcements. The Department of Rehabilitation case workers teams will be relocating. A new process for consumer payment cards for consumers is underway.

Vice Chair Nicole Turpin stated the RICV Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) program will be starting February 21st. Starting in March, caregiver support groups for those experiencing TBI will be available.

5. Secretary's and ADA Coordinator's Report

ADA Coordinator, Joe Hinojosa reviewed the schedule for warming centers. The Pinedale Center will no longer be available. Also, the DAC Commission has 1 vacancy. Joe Hinojosa stated so far one application has been submitted. Direct anyone who may be interested in applying to the DAC Commission go to Fresno.gov.

Also, Joe gave a shout out to our interpreters and the importance of the work that they do.

6. Unscheduled Communication/Public Comments

Yonas Paulos an advocate for veterans, he expressed his appreciation for RICV providing the TBI program. It has made a difference in his life.

7. Presentation

ID 23-267: Presentation from the Office of Community Affairs (Mayor's Office)

Alma Martinez, from the Office of Community Affairs had each of her colleagues introduce themselves (Sandra Lee and Pastor BT Lewis). Alma Martinez gave a brief overview on how the program was first established. The Office of Community Affairs serves 4 main roles:

- Direct constituent services
- Learning about diverse communities
- Represent communities' needs
- Working internally with City Departments

They use social media to reach out to the community as well as training. They offer first time homeowners' programs in addition to eviction protection programs for renters. There is a new program coming soon that will provide immigration legal aid.

Alma Martinez and her team responded to questions from the commission and thanked the commission for their interest.

8. Discussion

ID 23-268: Social Media Discussion

Chair Ken Elvington stated that he does not use social media currently. Joe Hinojosa asked the commission for their thoughts as far as social media platforms. The commissioner's shared their ideas and experience and/or suggestions. The general consensus is that social media may be a great way to reach out to the public. However, the question arises on who would be maintaining it. DAC at one point had a Facebook page but there was no one available to maintain it. Joe Hinojosa will do some research regarding social media and if this is something the DAC can leverage in reaching the public. There was much discussion around branding and great ideas were shared.

9. Subcommittee Reports

a. Transportation

Joe Hinojosa stated the next Transportation sub-committee meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2023. Joe will be looking at possible presentations for the Transportation sub-committee meeting.

b. Housing

Joe Hinojosa stated that Drew Wilson from the Planning Department gave a presentation on Long Range Planning.

Marla Williams stated that the Butterfly Gardens Housing Development located in Clovis is a wonderful model. She encourages those to reach out to their councilmember to advocate for similar developments for Fresno.

10. Adjournment

Adjourned called for at 11:59 AM.