

Department of Disability and Aging Services (DAS) Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, September 20, 2023

TIME: 10-11:30am

PLACE: 1650 Mission St. 5th Floor, Golden Gate Room

To protect the health of the Advisory Council members, DAS staff and members of the public during the COVID-19 health emergency, the DAS Advisory Council will continue to hold meetings remotely. Members of the public are encouraged to also participate in the meetings remotely.

Members Present: Diane Lawrence, Allen Cooper, Anne Warren, Steffany Dignum, Margaret Graf, Marcy Adelman, Eva Aber, and Chris Dillon, and Juliet Rothman. Prospective Council Member Lisa Cook was in attendance.

Members Absent Excused: Morningstar Vancil, and Darlene Ramlose, and Tia Small

WELCOME: Call to order and welcome Council Members and guests

Roll Call/Secretary

Motion to approve August 16, 2023, Meeting Minutes: approved

Cindy Kauffman Deputy Director's Report: Budget for next year is not promising, they will not cut existing programs but there will be no money for new programs. Director Dearman was at the CWDA Conference in Boston that awarded members of DAS. Director Dearman was also on a roundtable discussion with speaker Pelosi recently on the elderly community.

President Lawrence's Report: TACC meeting last month reported on California Commission on Aging (CCoA) sponsoring of 3 bills and their status. Bagley Keane Bill (AB 544) which would allow for more remote meetings; Older Americans on Boards and Commissions (AB 820) which is currently in suspense; and AB 770 Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) which is held up currently.

ACTION ITEM: President Lawrence spoke on the Joint Legislation Council: There have been talk in the JLC about how to be more effective and using the time for advocacy so they voted to restructure their roles and meeting times.

Marcy asked a question about both roles of the JLC and the Advisory Council and President Lawrence replied they would speak on this next month to plan out their schedule and priorities of 2024. Deputy Director Kauffman also spoke on the matter of the JLC bills and advocacy. Anne Warren clarified the role and Allen Cooper also inquired on the bills they will follow.

Unanimously approved.

President Lawrence spoke on Site Visits and the HUB's contact number and disseminating it in the community.

Mike Zaugg spoke on the Disability Community Culture Center: Will be the first of its kind on the 100 block of Grove Street. Currently in the planning stages and in person operations to be ready in 2025 and they are very much looking forward to that. There will be housing sponsored by Mercy Housing and Kelsey, the developer. The housing will be for persons with disabilities. The Disability Community Culture Center will rent space and an RFP is being finalized to run the cultural center. There will be virtual programming by July 2024 and before the brick and mortar is completed by 2025.

Marcy asked about the funding and speaker Zaugg said its funding is from the California Department of Aging, Dignity Fund, Mercy Housing and Kelsey.

LGBTQ Updates from Marcy: California Commission on Aging came to San Francisco and met at Open House where Cindy Kauffman presented on DAS Services and Programs.

Updates: Proposing to take December off and will vote on that next month

Member Updates:

Allen reported on AJR 4 statement opposing the privatization of Medicare. And SB 770 by Senator Wiener which passed and would allow Secretary of Health to negotiate to use federal funds for single payer health care.

Council Member Graf spoke on a collaborative event at the Outer Sunset Farmers Market to celebrate Grandparents' Day. The event was a collaboration between Senior Power and Community Living Campaign.

Council Member Steffany Dignum spoke on a free wireless program open to seniors and people with disabilities and will have a booth at the Heart of the City Farmers Market in Civic Center on Oct 26th. The Council member will be making presentations of the Affordable Connectivity Program which receives a federal subsidy for affordable connectivity. Discussion also mentioned Senior and Disability Action's ATT Connectivity Program.

Announcements:

Next meeting Wednesday October 18th, 2023, at 10:00am

Adjournment at 11:29am