

DIGNITY FUND OVERSIGHT AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

July 27, 2020; 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Via Zoom Conference Call

Minutes

Attending: Marcy Adelman, Ramona Davies, Jessica Lehman, Elinor Lurie, Sandy Mori, Allen Ng, Monique Zmuda, Melissa McGee (DAS), Tiffany Kearney (DAS), Justin Chico (DAS), Niquelle Warren (DAS)

Call to Order: Ms. Davies called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Roll Call: Ms. McGee called roll. The unexcused absence was Margy Baran, and Beverly Taylor.

Approval of the Agenda: Members approved the OAC meeting agenda for July 27, 2020 with the addition of discussion in regards to future OAC meeting dates.

Approval of the Minutes: Members approved the Jun 22, 2020 meeting minutes.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair Process-Ms. McGee explained that the slates have been nominated and agreed they will serve if elected. OAC members should email Ms. McGee today (7-27-20) or tomorrow (7-28-20) with your votes, and an email will be sent out to inform everyone. The current slate is one nominated and agreed to serve as chair, which is Ms. Ramona Davies, and one person nominated and agreed to serve as Vice Chair, which is Ms. Sandy Mori. Ms. Davies gave the Board members one last opportunity to nominate candidates. Ms. McGee will then vet each candidate's interest and willingness.

Programs/Services/Threats-Ms. McSpadden discussed in detail how DAS has adapted its programs and services during the COVID-19 pandemic. OCP received two stimulus checks used exclusively for the need in nutrition. There is still immediate expansive need in Nutrition. There was a big increase in demand for Home Delivered Meals and Home Delivered Groceries. Some congregate meal sites changed their services to a grab-and-go service or delivery, to help support their clients to stay home.

Ms. McSpadden reported that The Great Plates program, which is a hybrid program, aimed at getting restaurants in business while also serving seniors meals month to month is very helpful. (FEMA pays 75% and the State of CA pays 18%)

Adult Protective Services, are still going out into the field when needed, as during times like this, when seniors are sheltering in place, elderly abuse is more prevalent. IHSS is also providing IHSS services in hotels where the city has placed clients to socially distance from others.

RFP schedule & OTO funds- Mr. Zaugg explained that OCP are in the process of essentially bringing the RFP process back to life. All things that have been suspended in the Spring, will pick up where it was left off, as best as possible. There will be small adjustments in some program models to be more in line with operations of the shelter in place world. There are no

significant changes in funding levels for particular programs areas. Ms. McSpadden reported that the OTO process was reevaluated and OTO funds were diverted over to Nutrition funds and meals.

Mr. Zaugg reported that DAS is working with other resources to have some devices purchased and distributed. Mr. Salta added that the Digital Equity team are in touch with corporations and Tech companies, which are aware of the city need for help of devices.

Ms. Collins reported with the Art of San Francisco about digital interface with a friendship line during classes and town hall. With the Rotary grant, dinners are provided twice a month, and bring people together where they can zoom, eat meals together, and socialize.

Ms. McSpadden reported that the Home Delivery Meal waitlist has lowered dramatically. With stimulus funds coming in, and simultaneously, it has allowed DAS to mix Congregate Meal funding and HDM funding to be utilized where it is needed the most. It also has allowed DAS to be flexible with any federal funding coming in.

Budget Update-FY 19-20 & FY 20-21-Ms. McSpadden reported that Mayor Breed gave department's budget reduction targets of 10% to the general fund. Moving up to 15% the following year and a 5% contingency. Ms. McSpadden explained that DAS is looking at the budget cuts as an agency whole not a "per department" cut. The Mayor's office had to make more budget cuts due to balancing the budget for allowing the unions to come with give backs. The give back being raised are expected for city employee's. The city employees union has not come with the give backs. The Mayor's Office needed to find other ways to balance the budget, where there are bigger gaps of departments. The Department is doing well in terms of getting revenue in from the state. The Department has increase revenue for the services that are provided and that are state mandated. Some departments in the agency are hurting from the budget cuts and are in need. For the second task, budget cuts are to use vacancies rather than cut certain programs. The department will not be unable to hire in certain positions' because they are holding a certain number of vacancies that are frozen completely. The Mayor does not want to penalize community organizations and community focused programs but will definitely affect certain programs if staff cannot be hired. If staff cannot be hired, the risk is becoming slower in processing applications and also responding to allegations. Dignity Fund has very few cuts if any. The Dignity Fund Eligible programs has a potential of \$350,000 for programs as a budget. Mayor's office will reassess funding every couple of months moving forward. Looking back at DAS core values, if cuts have to be made, it would be more effective to think about what programs are prioritized per Eligible Services Reduction List for reduction instead of cutting every program. DAS remains in conversation with the Mayor's Budget Office regarding additional adjustments that may be required to move budget reduction targets and absorb loss.

Ms. McSpadden explained the state put out surveys to senior centers and to community centers to find out how their clients are when using the devices and what is best the technology to use. The State is getting 6,000 devices from Google to study and see how successful it is using these devices.

Public Comment- Ms. McSpadden explained the community need reassessment is required by the Dignity Fund Legislation every four years and will do a full reassessment next year. The planning team has done a number of assessments looking at specific communities and are already working on the needs to the COVID pandemic. Other thing being looked at are gaps in food security, homeless people, and shelter systems. Supervisor Walton has met with community members in meetings to allocate some of the funds to the senior communities. The California Department of Aging has sent surveys to communities about the digital divide, food security, loneliness, and isolation to build an understanding of the various issues in the communities to help figure what the response should be.

Announcements- On Wednesday, July 29, 2020, Ms. McSpadden, Ms. Dearman, Ms. Kate, and Ms. Spears will be having a town hall on Ages One on One and Reframing Aging for the California Department of Aging and is open to the public. A link will be sent out with more information.

Ms. Lehman announced that this month (July) is the 30th anniversary of the American Disability Act. The ADA 30 in Color, a series of essays by disabled people of color about what an ADA means to them, how ADA not meet the needs of colors in the community, and how it could be different. Wednesday, July 29, 2020, is the next ADA for the Next Generation, replacement for Disability Capitol Action Day, which will take place in the Spring, in Sacramento (10AM-2PM). On Tuesday, July 28, 2020, 3PM-4:30 PM there will a training on Care Rationing, which is called “Who Gets to Live and Who Die’s”. On Thursday, July 30, 2020, there will be a SDA Watch Party on Netflix in honor of the ADA Anniversary on zoom: Crip Camp from 5PM -7PM.

Future DF-OAC Meeting Dates-The members of the DF-OAC discussed potential future meeting dates. The August 17th was chosen as the committee members to discuss the budget and allocation. The members have decided that the August 17th meeting would not be necessary.

The August 17th tentative date has been cancelled. The OAC will meet next on September 21, 2020.

Adjournment: 4:50 p.m.

Next meeting: Monday, 9/21/20, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Via Zoom Conference Call