

**These Meeting Minutes are not official until approved by  
the Disability Advisory Committee**

REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

June 9, 2020  
6:30 P.M.

**Call To Order & Roll Call**

The regular meeting of the Culver City Disability Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:35 P.M. via Webex.

**Members Present:** Dr. Jay Shery, Chair  
Robyn Tenensap, Vice Chair  
Jorge Alvarez, Member  
Dr. Janet Cameron Hault, Member  
Carmen Ibarra, Member  
Lisette Palley, Member  
Jorge Sandoval, Member  
Marcy Sookne, Member

**Absent:** Janice Goldhaber, Member

**Staff Present:** Jill Thomsen, Recreation and Community  
Services Supervisor  
Melanie Morales, Recreation and Community  
Services Specialist  
Laurence Ma, Administrative Clerk  
Valerie Perez, IT Analyst

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**Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda**

Chair Shery invited public comment.

Laurence Ma, Administrative Clerk, indicated that no public comment had been received.

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**Consent Calendar Items**

Item C-1

**DAC - Approval of the Minutes for the Disability Advisory Committee Meeting of April 14, 2021**

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR TENENSAP, SECONDED BY MEMBER SOOKNE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 14, 2021 (ABSENT MEMBER GOLDHABER).

Laurence Ma, Administrative Clerk, noted that meetings were posted online for public viewing.

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**Order of the Agenda**

Items from Staff were heard before the Action Items, and Item A-1 was revisited during Items from Committee Members.

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**Items from Staff**

Jill Thomsen, Recreation and Community Services Supervisor, provided an update on Culver Connect; clarified that information could not be shared between the Police and Fire Departments due to privacy and other concerns; and she introduced Recreation and Community Services Specialist Melanie Morales serving on the Senior and Social Services Team.

Melanie Morales, Recreation and Community Services Specialist, introduced herself; expressed excitement to work on upcoming events; and she discussed her work on the June in Bloom event.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding a suggestion to agendaize a discussion of providing information to the disabled on the need to furnish information to both the Police and Fire Departments; staff

agreed to investigate the best way to work together; clarification on who has the contract; and the ability to share information between departments.

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**Action Items**

Item A-1

**DAC - Discussion and Planning for Disability Awareness Month**

Jill Thomsen, Recreation and Community Services Supervisor, discussed traditional events for Disability Awareness month; nominations and the award for individuals who have provided exemplary service to the Disabled Community; the process for the awards and proclamation; the Wheelchair Basketball demonstration at the High School; and the Kids Carnival.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the petting zoo at the Carnival; COVID restrictions; Fiesta La Ballona; parking and space issues; keeping the events separate; a suggestion to hold the Carnival in mid-October; previous support of the event by The Exchange Club; whether people will be hesitant or excited about going to an event; a suggestion to kick off Disability Awareness month with the Carnival and end the month with information provided at Fiesta La Ballona; coordination of events with Fiesta La Ballona; holding a disability dance; Wheelchair Basketball; bringing disability out in the open; the Community Stage; mobility challenges with activities in a park; artists who could display at Fiesta La Ballona; the list of commendation recipients; whether to hold the Carnival in a month that is less busy; potential dates; ensuring that the date chosen does not conflict with the Fall Festival at Farragut Elementary School; having a space for Fiesta La Ballona for people with disabilities in the arts as well as an informational table; the importance of having a Carnival specifically for differently abled individuals; the importance of resource tables; the Girl Scout volunteers; training and disability etiquette education; scaling down events to cut expenses; history of the event; having the Wheelchair Basketball event in the park rather than at a school assembly; making use of Fiesta La Ballona to raise awareness; exposing the high school students to athletes with disabilities; Infinite Flow Dance Company; logistics; staff agreement to summarize feedback received and distribute to

Committee Members; whether to hold a special meeting; concern with finalizing the date so late; concern with other events drawing participants and volunteers away from the Carnival; and Committee consensus to hold the Carnival on October 10 pending investigation of other events happening on that day.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR TENENSAP, SECONDED BY MEMBER SOOKNE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE SET A TENTATIVE DATE OF OCTOBER 10, 2021 FOR THE ABILITIES CARNIVAL AND RESOURCE FAIR PENDING ANY OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONFLICTS (ABSENT MEMBER GOLDHABER).

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the Committee meeting schedule.

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Item A-2

**DAC - Recommendations to the Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee**

Member Alvarez discussed the City Council proclamation in the month of October; recognition of individuals who contribute to different Commissions and Committees; grocery store and pharmacy partnerships to provide free delivery for the disabled; application forms; complaint forms; nuisances to the disabled community; and ensuring that those with mental health issues have an advocate.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding items not being addressed in the City; criteria for the complaint form; reframing the complaint form as an opportunity form; use of positive language; existing forms on the City website; using language indicating that attention is required to address issues; Code Enforcement; the current process for commendations; the suggestion for additional recognition within other groups for their advocacy for the disabled; changes proposed by the DAC's Equity and Human Relations Ad Hoc Subcommittee; ensuring that concerns cited on the form are relayed to the Committee; the Culver City Access app; and continued work of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee to bring a proposal forward.

MOVED BY MEMBER HOULT, SECONDED BY MEMBER ALVAREZ AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDIZE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE DAC'S EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS AD-HOC SUBCOMMITTEE FOR SUPPORT OF THE DAC (ABSENT MEMBER GOLDHABER).

Further discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding Committee consensus to agendize a discussion about Disability Awareness month.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR TENENSAP, SECONDED BY MEMBER PALLEY AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDIZE A DISCUSSION ABOUT DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH ACTIVITIES AT THE AUGUST MEETING (ABSENT MEMBER GOLDHABER).

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Item A-3

**Recommendations from the Ad Hoc Subcommittee Focused on the Arts For and By the Disabled**

Member Hoult discussed her role as a member of the Advisory Board for the Culver Arts Foundation; recognizing those who are disabled and creative; grant proposals; the Arts and Resiliency Program; assistance in the application process; various groups for creative disabled residents; and formulation of a letter from the DAC to groups encouraging them to recognize the disabled creative population.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding encouraging the person with the disability to be part of the culture rather than being kept separate; ensuring that it is understood that just because a person has a disability they are not precluded from applying for the grant; bringing the disabled into the mainstream; formulating a letter from the DAC to the Cultural Affairs Commission and the Culver Arts Foundation to let people know what is happening and encourage them to apply for grants; identification of other groups with creative disabled involved; and outreach to the Exceptional Children's Foundation, United Cerebral Palsy and LA Goal.

Member Hoult proposed a motion that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee Focused on the Arts For and By the Disabled draft a letter for consideration at the August meeting and Member Palley seconded the motion.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding use of the term disabled; putting the person first and the disability second; support for using "people first" language; and review of the letter by Vice Chair Tenensap and Member Ibarra.

MOVED BY MEMBER HOULT, SECONDED BY MEMBER PALLEY AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE DIRECT THE AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE FOCUSED ON THE ARTS FOR AND BY THE DISABLED TO DRAFT A LETTER ADDRESSED TO CULVER ARTS FOUNDATION AND THE CULVER CITY CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION TO CONSIDER DISABLED POPULATION IN THE PROCESSING OF CULVER CITY ART GRANT APPLICATIONS AT THE AUGUST DAC MEETING (ABSENT MEMBER GOLDHABER).

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Item A-4

**DAC - [Standing Item; Any or All of the Following Actions, If Desired] (1) Receipt and Filing of Updates from the Members of the Disability Advisory Committee Ad Hoc Subcommittees; (2) Formation of New and/or Dissolution of Existing Ad Hoc Subcommittee(s)**

Laurence Ma, Administrative Clerk, encouraged Members to submit anything they want attached to meeting agendas two weeks in advance.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) recommendations due at the October meeting; agendizing a discussion of CDBG for October; allowing time to submit recommendations; a reminder that recommendations must be a minimum of \$10,000; and grouping projects in recommendations.

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**Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda**

Chair Shery invited public comment.

Laurence Ma, Administrative Clerk, indicated that no public comment had been received.

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**Receipt of Correspondence**

Laurence Ma, Administrative Clerk, indicated receipt of an email regarding the absence of Member Goldhaber from the meeting.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding distribution of the form being used by Member Ibarra for review and comment to the DAC's Equity and Human Relations Advisory Subcommittee.

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**Items from Disability Advisory Committee Members**

Member Alvarez reported ongoing discussions with Parks Recreation and Community Services Director Armando Abrego about the blocked sidewalk at Venice under the freeway; he noted that other cities had taken a different position than Culver City; and he discussed the position of the City Attorney.

Member Hoult discussed the Queen Mary article in the Los Angeles Times and thanked those who took the time to read it.

Member Ibarra challenged everyone to use "people first" language and noted the importance of acknowledging individuals.

Member Palley acknowledged the importance of "people first" language and postcards to encourage people to sign up.

Member Sookne discussed "people first" vocabulary used in disability etiquette and the library display for Disability Awareness month.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the ability of an individual to ask the library to make a display for Disability Awareness month vs. as a Committee Member and discussion of the item under Item A-1.

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Item A-1  
(Continued)

**DAC - Discussion and Planning for Disability Awareness Month**

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the process to create a display in the Julian Dixon Library for Disability Awareness month on behalf of the Committee, and agreement that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee Focused on the Arts For and By the Disabled would approach the Julian Dixon Library to see if they are willing to allow the Disability Advisory Committee to create a display at the Library for Disability Awareness month, and provide an update at the August meeting.

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**Items from Disability Advisory Committee Members (Continued)**

Chair Shery asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory Mario Tenesap, husband of Vice Chair Tenensap.

Vice Chair Tenensap discussed the work of her husband to help the City.

Jill Thomsen, Recreation and Community Services Supervisor, expressed her condolences to Vice Chair Tenensap, and thanked Valerie Perez from Information Technology and Administrative Clerk, Laurence Ma for their help with the meeting.

Chair Shery asked when live meetings would be resumed.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 8:42 P.M., the Disability Advisory Committee adjourned in memory of Mario Tenensap to a regular meeting to be held on Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. via Webex.

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Laurence Ma  
SECRETARY of the Culver City Disability Advisory Committee  
Culver City, California

APPROVED

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Dr. Jay Shery  
CHAIR of the Disability Advisory Committee, Culver City,  
California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that, on the date below written, these minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of said meeting.

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Jeremy Green  
CITY CLERK

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Date