

REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

April 9, 2025  
6:30 P.M.

**Call To Order & Roll Call**

Chair Goldhaber called the regular meeting of the Culver City Disability Advisory Committee to order at 6:30 P.M. at the Senior Center.

**Members Present:** Janice Goldhaber, Chair  
Marie Albertson, Member  
Jessica Burnett, Member  
Robin Langman, Member  
Shellena Leftridge, Member  
Yu-Ngok Lo, Member  
Marcy Sookne, Member\*

\*Member Sookne arrived at 6:32 P.M.

**Members Absent:** Robyn Tenensapf, Vice Chair

**Staff Present:** Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community Services Manager  
Mike Odunze, Recreation and Community Services Coordinator  
Melanie Morales, Recreation and Community Services Coordinator  
Jesse Roth, Associate Analyst

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**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Disability Advisory Committee and meeting attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Chair Goldhaber invited public comment.

Jesse Roth, Associate Analyst, indicated that Victor had signed up to speak but was not present in person or online.

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**Receipt of Correspondence**

Jesse Roth, Associate Analyst, indicated that no correspondence had been received.

Member Sookne joined the meeting.

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**Consent Calendar**

Item C-1

**Approval of the Minutes for the Disability Advisory Committee  
Regular Meeting of February 12, 2025**

MOVED BY MEMBER SOOKNE, SECONDED BY MEMBER ALBERTSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT VICE CHAIR TENENSAPF) THAT THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 12, 2025 AS WRITTEN.

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**Order of the Agenda**

No changes were made.

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**Action Items**

Item A-1

**DAC - Receipt and Filing of Report from No Limits for Deaf Children and Families**

Mike Odunze, Recreation and Community Services Coordinator, introduced Destiny Golden from No Limits for Deaf Children and Families.

Destiny Golden, No Limits for Deaf Children and Families, provided background on herself and the organization; presented videos of students; discussed programs and services; events; activities; the socio-emotional companion dog; the primary focus on speech therapy; multi-lingual students; advocacy skills; expanding language; parent education classes; she shared experiences of individuals who have participated in the program; presented a map of pop-up locations around the world; discussed recognition received over the years; National No Limits for Deaf Children Day on April 17, 2025; encouragement to dream big; and she welcomed anyone interested to come visit.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding appreciation for the presentation; clarification that the center works with all levels of hearing loss; early identification of hearing issues; outreach; referrals; building awareness; participation in the annual Culver City Abilities Carnival and Resource Fair; virtual services provided in other locations; funding; fundraisers; grants; use of paid speech therapists; referrals for therapy services for mental health; the need for volunteers at any level; isolation; those who are visually impaired and experiencing hearing loss; and promotional materials to be provided to Committee Members through staff.

MOVED BY MEMBER LO, SECONDED BY MEMBER LANGMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT VICE CHAIR TENENSAPF), THAT THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT FROM NO LIMITS FOR DEAF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.

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**Drafting of an Events Plan for Disability Awareness Month in October 2025**

Mike Odunze, Recreation and Community Services Coordinator, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding improving communication and coordination with the Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD); the Girl Scouts; suggestions for how to improve the display window at the Julian Dixon Library; building awareness of available resources; evaluation; Regional Center; education; a suggestion to change the name from Dances for the Developmentally Disabled; inviting authors of appropriate books to the library or schools; making self-determination information available to the community; the importance of addressing mental health; the upcoming Mental Health Fair; ad hoc subcommittees; and the ability of the Disability Awareness Month Ad Hoc Subcommittee to work on items for the event in between regular meetings.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding appreciation for suggestions; monthly educational workshops; work by Member Lo on an architecture barriers lecture program; the need for ad hoc subcommittees to return to the full Committee for consideration; procedures that must be followed as a legislative body; the need for support from ad hoc subcommittees; and the ability of staff to accommodate schedules; and virtual meetings.

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**DAC - (1) Consideration of Formation of a Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) "AARP Age-Friendly Communities Culver City Action Plan" Ad Hoc Subcommittee; and (2) If Desired, Appointment of Up to Four Committee Members to the Newly Formed Ad Hoc Subcommittee**

Jesse Roth, Associate Analyst, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding clarification on the Age Friendly Initiative; the

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five-year process with the goal of creating a Strategic Action Plan to guide efforts for the next five years; Member interest and support for the program and for creation of a subcommittee; length of the commitment; the planning and networking event on April 24; the City Council Ad Hoc Subcommittee on the Age Friendly Initiative; progress reports to the full Committee; and Member interest in serving.

MOVED BY CHAIR GOLDHABER, SECONDED BY MEMBER ALBERTSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT VICE CHAIR TENENSAPF), THAT THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE: FORM A DAC "AARP AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES CULVER CITY ACTION PLAN" AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE AND APPOINT CHAIR GOLDHABER AND MEMBERS LEFTRIDGE AND SOOKNE TO SERVE ON THE NEWLY FORMED DAC "AARP AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES CULVER CITY ACTION PLAN" AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE.

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Item A-4

**DAC - (1) Consideration of Formation of a Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) "People-First Language, Disability Etiquette, and ADA Accessibility Training for Staff" Ad Hoc Subcommittee; and (2) If Desired, Appointment of Up to Four Committee Members to the Newly Formed Ad Hoc Subcommittee**

Jesse Roth, Associate Analyst, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the timeframe to accomplish items; the workload for Committee Members; the ability to dissolve and reinstate the ad hoc subcommittee; concern with negative reaction to requiring training; providing optional training; training people it directly applies to; people in the City who already have expertise; staff training currently offered through the Human Resources Department; the simple nature of the training offered to the Girl Scouts; diversity and inclusion training; learning about micro-aggressions; concern with a linear approach to training on how to interact with someone with a disability because the spectrum is so large; the recent Diversity, Equity and Belonging Training offered to all City employees; understanding what is distinctive about what is being proposed vs. what is being offered; aspects of disability that have not been included in past training; the role of the Committee; and whether to create an ad hoc subcommittee to help determine whether there is a role.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding repeated requests to consider the issue; ideas on the type of training to provide; City Council purview; type of training offered by Human Resources; demonstrating strong interest that can lead to further discussion and expansion; the ability of any CBC (Committee, Board, or Commission) Member to present agreed upon items at a City Council meeting; and support for forming the ad hoc subcommittee.

MOVED BY CHAIR GOLDHABER, SECONDED BY MEMBER ALBERTSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT VICE CHAIR TENENSAPF), THAT THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE: FORM A DAC "PEOPLE-FIRST LANGUAGE, DISABILITY ETIQUETTE, AND ADA ACCESSIBILITY TRAINING FOR STAFF" AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE.

MOVED BY MEMBER SOOKNE, SECONDED BY CHAIR GOLDHABER AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT VICE CHAIR TENENSAPF), THAT THE DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPOINT CHAIR GOLDHABER AND MEMBERS ALBERTSON AND SOOKNE TO THE NEWLY FORMED "PEOPLE-FIRST LANGUAGE, DISABILITY ETIQUETTE, AND ADA ACCESSIBILITY TRAINING FOR STAFF" AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE.

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Item A-5

**DAC - Receipt and Filing of Updates from the Members of the Disability Advisory Committee Ad Hoc Subcommittees**

Member Sookne indicated that the Disability Awareness Month Ad Hoc Subcommittee had not met.

Member Langman indicated that the 2028 Summer Olympics Preparation Ad Hoc Subcommittee had not met.

Member Lo indicated that the Architectural Barriers Ad Hoc Subcommittee had not met.

Chair Goldhaber reported that the City Council Communication Ad Hoc Subcommittee had met and would present at the next meeting.

MOVED BY MEMBER LANGMAN, SECONDED BY MEMBER LO AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT VICE CHAIR TENENSAPF) THAT THE

DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE: RECEIVE AND FILE UPDATES FROM  
THE MEMBERS OF THE AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES.

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Item A-6

**DAC - Receipt and Filing of the Disability Advisory Committee  
2025 Meeting Calendar and the Upcoming Agenda Items List,  
With Adjustments, If Any**

Jesse Roth, Associate Analyst, provided a summary of the  
material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members  
regarding the regular September meeting before the Abilities  
Carnival and Resource Fair, and the process and timeframe  
for agendizing subcommittee reports.

MOVED BY MEMBER ALBERTSON, SECONDED BY MEMBER LANGMAN AND  
UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT VICE CHAIR TENENSAPF), THAT THE  
DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE: RECEIVE AND FILE THE DAC 2025  
MEETING CALENDAR AND THE UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS LIST AS  
SUBMITTED.

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**Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda (Continued)**

Chair Goldhaber invited public comment.

Jesse Roth, Associate Analyst, indicated that no requests to  
speak had been received.

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**Items from Disability Advisory Committee Members/Staff**

Chair Goldhaber received clarification that staff would  
provide updates on the new ad hoc subcommittees and their  
membership to Committee Members.

Melanie Morales, Recreation and Community Services  
Coordinator, reported that Jill Thomsen could not be present  
but sends her regards.

Jesse Roth, Associate Analyst, announced that applications were being accepted for vacancies on CBCs at [www.culvercity.org/serve](http://www.culvercity.org/serve) through May 12, 2025 and information was available on the website or by calling (310) 253-5851.

Chair Goldhaber thanked staff and Committee Members for their efforts at the meeting.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 8:18 P.M., the Disability Advisory Committee adjourned to a meeting to be held on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 6:30 P.M.

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Jesse Roth  
SECRETARY of the Culver City Disability Advisory Committee  
Culver City, California

APPROVED

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Janice Goldhaber  
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 Bocchino  
CITY CLERK

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Date