

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ACCESS LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Teleconference Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2024

1. Call to Order

Chair Scott Lillibridge welcomed everyone and called the meeting of the Legislative Committee of the California Commission on Disability Access (CCDA) to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. The meeting was on Zoom, via teleconference, and held at the CCDA Headquarters, 400 R Street, Suite 312, Sacramento, CA 95811.

Staff Member Ridge reviewed the meeting protocols.

Roll Call

Staff Member Ridge called the roll and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

Committee Members Present:

Scott Lillibridge, Committee Chair

Rob Bonta, Attorney General, by Deputy Attorney General Ben Conway*

Jacqueline Jackson*

Dan Okenfuss

Other Commissioners Present:

Commissioner Dr. Luciana Profaca*

Commissioner Ramirez*

*Participated remotely

Staff Present:

April Dawson-Rawlings, Executive Director

Stephanie Groce, Data and Research Analyst

Phil McPhaul, Operations Manager

Abigail Ridge, Administrative and Legislative Analyst

Presley Strother, Marketing and Outreach Analyst

Also Present:

Melerie Michael, Department of General Services

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes (June 7, 2023) – Action

Motion: Committee Member Okenfuss moved to approve the June 7, 2023, California Commission on Disability Access Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Conway seconded. There was no public comment on the motion. Motion carried 4 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

The following Committee Members voted “Yes”: Committee Members Conway, Jackson, and Okenfuss, and Chair Lillibridge.

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3. Comments from the Public on Issues Not on this Agenda

No members of the public addressed the Committee.

4. Social Media Pilot – Update and Discussion

a. CCDA Facebook page and YouTube channel

Executive Director Dawson-Rawlings provided an overview of the postings on the CCDA's Facebook page and YouTube channel, which are part of the six-month CCDA Social Media Pilot Project.

Discussion

Commissioner Ramirez suggested including livestreaming meetings on Facebook and YouTube. This is a great opportunity to use social media to model communication accessibility and to disseminate information on changes in federal and state accessibility laws.

Public Comment

No public comment.

5. Pacific ADA Webinar Series – Discussion

a. Overview: ADA Opportunities for Small Businesses

b. Upcoming Events

Executive Director Dawson-Rawlings reviewed upcoming webinars that will be hosted by the CCDA in partnership with the Pacific ADA Center:

- A virtual webinar on the Intersection of Title 1 and Title 3 of the ADA and Service Animals will be held on May 30, 2024.
- A virtual webinar on How Far We've Come with ADA Compliance will be held on July 18, 2024.
- A virtual webinar on Customer Service During Busy Seasons will be held on September 5, 2024.

Discussion

Committee Members asked clarifying questions about the difference between webinars and listening forums and how the CCDA advertises the webinars.

Chair Lillibridge suggested sending the webinar information to chambers of commerce.

Public Comment

No public comment.

6. Legislative Bill Tracking – Update and Discussion

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Executive Director Dawson-Rawlings thanked Corrina Roy for her work with the CCDA over the years and welcomed Melerie Michael, who has recently been assigned as CCDA's legislative consultant.

Melerie Michael, Legislative Consultant, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of General Services (DGS), summarized the CCDA Legislative Status Report on the bills staff is tracking, which was included in the meeting materials.

a. Assembly Bill 3279: State Bar of California

- This bill is a cleanup bill that updates the fees for active and inactive licenses, deletes criteria for membership in the California Young Lawyers Association, and deletes references to an April 30th report deadline date as the reports are now to be included in the State Bar's Annual Discipline Report. Reports are now due on October 31st.
- This bill will be heard on April 30th in the Assembly Judiciary.

Executive Director Dawson-Rawlings reviewed the statutorily mandated requirement that attorneys submit copies of demand letters, complaints, and complaint resolutions to the CCDA within five business days of filing them with the court on construction-related disability access violations and website access violations. Reports of attorney noncompliance are received by the State Bar, which then determines the actions to take. These actions are listed in the State Bar Discipline Report.

Discussion

Committee Member Okenfuss asked if a representative from the DGS or CCDA will attend the Assembly Bill (AB) 3279 Assembly Committee on Judiciary on April 30th.

Ms. Michael stated the DGS monitors hearings virtually, if time allows, and tracks the bills.

Public Comment

No public comment.

7. Mandatory ADA Disclosure to Business – Discussion

a. History and Overview

b. CCDA's Resources

Executive Director Dawson-Rawlings stated the CCDA provided technical assistance to the author of Senate Bill (SB) 748, the new Mandatory ADA Disclosure that businesses must read when they apply for or renew a business license or permit. She reviewed an example of the Mandatory ADA Disclosure document, which was included in the meeting materials. She stated the main goal is to ensure that business owners know that just because they are being given a business license does not mean that they have been checked for accessibility, encourages business owners to hire a Certified Access Specialist (CAsp), and provides links to resources. She noted that staff has received several public inquiries since this law went into effect. This is an example of how the

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CCDA can be a technical resource to members of the Legislature for the good of everyone.

Discussion

Committee Member Okenfuss asked if there are outreach opportunities where the Commission can help spread the word to business owners.

Executive Director Dawson-Rawlings stated staff has done a little outreach in this area and has been working on finalizing a business liaison staff position to expand that and other outreach efforts.

Commissioner Ramirez suggested including the California Association of Cities and Counties in the CCDA's outreach strategy. Updated information is especially important as Los Angeles County prepares to host the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games to ensure that all business partners have the necessary information so that incoming visitors have a good experience. They suggested developing key metrics to track success and penetration rates. This is an opportunity to ask for more support at the state and county levels to help disseminate the Mandatory ADA Disclosure information and to highlight the importance of this Commission.

Public Comment

No public comment.

8. Website Accessibility – Discussion

a. Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) Full Commission Presentation

b. CCDA's Toolkit Development

Executive Director Dawson-Rawlings provided an update on the CCDA's toolkit and modules to comply with AB 2917 that mandated the CCDA to begin collecting information in the CCDA Legal Portal about alleged accessibility access claims related to websites and mandated the CCDA to partner with the Division of the State Architect (DSA) and the DOR to conduct trainings and create a toolkit around this.

Executive Director Dawson-Rawlings stated the DOR is excited to partner with the CCDA on the toolkit and gave permission for the CCDA to utilize the toolkit they have already developed that is targeted to Title II of the ADA, related to state and local governments. The CCDA mainly works under Title III of the ADA, related to places of public accommodation; however, many requirements are similar.

Executive Director Dawson-Rawlings stated the Department of Justice (DOJ) recently released their final rule on Title II entities and website accessibility. Staff will monitor this closely as this toolkit is being developed. The plan is for the toolkit to be presented to the Commission by the end of this year.

There were no questions from Committee Members and no public comment.

9. CCDA's Legal Portal – Discussion

a. Prior and Upcoming Enhancements

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Executive Director Dawson-Rawlings stated updates to the CCDA Legal Portal are made regularly to help make it easier to use. Staff regularly talks and has trainings with law firms that have questions or issues with the Portal. She reviewed recent upgrades to the CCDA Legal Portal.

b. Key Code Project and Attorney Compliance

Executive Director Dawson-Rawlings stated staff is working on updating and correcting the key codes for violations and ensuring appropriate terms are used that match to the codes.

There were no questions from Committee Members and no public comment.

10 Future Agenda Items – Discussion

No future agenda items were offered.

11 Adjourn

Chair Lillibridge thanked everyone for participating and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Commissioner Jackson moved to adjourn the April 24, 2024, California Commission on Disability Access Legislative Committee Meeting. Commissioner Conway seconded. Motion carried 3 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

The following Committee Members voted “Yes”: Committee Members Conway, and Jackson, and Chair Lillibridge.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.