

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ACCESS LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Teleconference Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2023

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.

Commissioners Present:

Scott Lillibridge, Chair
Ben Conway*
Jacqueline Jackson*
Sarahann Shapiro*

Staff Present:

April Dawson, Executive Director
Stephanie Groce, Data and Research
Analyst
Phil McPhaul, Operations Manager
Abigail Ridge, Administrative and
Legislative Analyst
Presley Strother, Marketing and
Outreach Analyst

Committee Members Present:

Dan Okenfuss*

*Participated remotely.

Also Present:

Bill Zellmer, Sutter Health, Checklist Committee Member

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes (February 8, 2023) – Action

Motion: Commissioner Conway moved to approve the February 8, 2023, California Commission on Disability Access Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Jackson seconded. Motion carried 5 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

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

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

No members of the public addressed the Committee.

4. CCDA’s New Commissioner Sarahann Shapiro – Discussion

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Staff Member McPhaul read new Commissioner Sarahann Shapiro's biography, which was included in the meeting materials.

Chair Lillibridge welcomed Commissioner Shapiro on behalf of the Committee.

5. Administrative Order 22-XX: Legislative Communications Policy – Update and Discussion

Executive Director Dawson stated she has reviewed and signed the Department of General Services' (DGS) Administrative Order 22-XX and sent it back to the DGS. Once all necessary signatures are obtained, it will go into effect. She summarized the background, purpose, and policies in the document, which was included in the meeting materials. She stated the Commission's mission relates to ensuring that community members are engaged at all levels of government, including business and disability community advocates. The Administrative Order seeks to strengthen the goal of the Commission to increase access across California.

Discussion

Commissioner Shapiro clarified that this Administrative Order relates to official communications from the Commission to legislators on various items.

Executive Director Dawson stated that is correct.

Public Comment

No public comment.

6. Legislative Bill Tracking – Update and Discussion

Corrina Roy, 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 222: Civil Rights Department: Californians with disabilities workgroup.

This bill has failed to pass the first House and is now a two-year bill.

b. Assembly Bill 410: Shared mobility devices.

This bill has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

c. Senate Bill 544: Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: teleconferencing.

This bill has passed the first House and has referred to the Assembly Committee on Governmental Organization.

d. Senate Bill 585: Disability access: construction-related accessibility claims: statutory damages: attorney's fees and costs.

This bill is awaiting Committee assignment in the Assembly.

e. Senate Bill 748: Disability access and information: local government: notice.

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This bill is pending in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

f. Assembly Bill 950: Accessibility: internet websites.

This bill is now a two-year bill.

g. Assembly Bill 1163: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Disparities Reduction Act.

This bill is awaiting Committee assignment in the Senate.

h. Assembly Bill 1404: Disability access: internet website-related accessibility claims.

This bill is awaiting hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Discussion

Committee Member Okenfuss asked if the Commission has been contacted by the author's office for technical assistance for Senate Bill (SB) 585.

Ms. Roy stated the Commission has not discussed SB 585 specifically with Senator Niello's Office.

Commissioner Shapiro stated she has been closely following this bill. She stated, although the Commission cannot take positions on bills, she would welcome discussions regarding concerns and issues with this bill.

Public Comment

Bill Zellmer, Sutter Health, and Member of the Checklist Committee, asked for additional detail on Assembly Bill (AB) 410.

Ms. Roy suggested reading the bill in its entirety and Committee analyses and contacting the author's office to discuss concerns.

7. CCDA Response to Assembly Bill 2917: Internet Websites, Parking Lots, and Exterior Paths of Travel – Update and Discussion

Executive Director Dawson stated AB 2917 went into effect on January 1, of 2023. It requires the Commission to create an Accessible Parking Campaign Toolkit, which also covers exterior paths of travel to educate stakeholder and industry groups on how to make their parking lots accessible to individuals with disabilities. AB 2917 also requires the Commission to create either modules or a Website Accessibility Toolkit and to update the CCDA Legal Portal to capture alleged disability access violations related to websites. The Commission will then begin to track those alleged violations as it does with the alleged construction-related disability access violations in the portal.

Executive Director Dawson stated the CCDA will report the alleged website violations to the Legislature annually, along with the list of the top ten alleged disability violations that are website related. The Commission will conduct education and outreach to the business community on the guidance available, particularly through the Website Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), to help business owners understand how to comply and ensure that their websites are accessible to individuals with disabilities.

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a. Accessible Parking Campaign

Executive Director Dawson stated the final draft of the Accessible Parking Campaign Toolkit, including a Construction Industry Toolkit and a Business Owners and Operators Toolkit, was submitted to the Division of the State Architect (DSA) in December. Graphic design and editing are being incorporated through the Real Estate Services Division. The edits are expected to be done by September. It will then be put out for public comment and go through the DGS approval process. The plan is to present the final draft at the October Commission meeting for approval.

b. Website Accessibility Toolkit

• **Website Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1**

Executive Director Dawson stated research and scopes of work are being put together to be included in education modules. The CCDA will explore partnerships with other disability-related groups such as the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) that has already created similar documents related to website accessibility and has generously offered to allow the Commission to utilize some of their resources to help the Commission create a toolkit and modules.

Executive Director Dawson stated, as part of AB 2917, the Commission has been updating the website so that the resources page has a website accessibility do's and don'ts, one-pagers, and guidelines from other organizations that have already done this work. The Legal Portal is also being updated to include a website accessibility alleged violation drop down so that attorneys can more specifically state nuances of the complaint to help capture data to better educate businesses about trends. The updates to the CCDA Legal Portal are expected to be completed in July.

Discussion

There was no Commissioner discussion and no public comment.

8. 2023 Listening Forums – Update and Discussion

Executive Director Dawson stated, now that some of the COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted, staff is planning to have several regional Listening Forums throughout the state in 2023 to bring the disability and business communities together to discuss ideas for meaningful change related to business access, demystify assumptions, share challenges, work on solutions, and learn what was working in different communities.

Executive Director Dawson stated the first Listening Forum will be held on August 31st at the San Jose City Hall in the city of San Jose. Staff is working with the San Jose Disability Officer and other community members from the city of San Jose and Santa Clara County. She stated she was excited to provide an opportunity for local government and the disability and business communities to strengthen their relationships with each other through the Listening Forum, and that the CCDA will have the opportunity to listen and come up with ways to support those communities in the work that it does.

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Executive Director Dawson noted that Commissioner Shapiro will moderate the event and a Certified Access Specialist (CAsp) from the DSA will be available to answer questions. She stated time will be made during the Listening Forum to share information about the CCDA and its work and to share resources such as the Accessible Parking Toolkit, etc.

Executive Director Dawson stated she continues working on other Listening Forums to be held across the state this year, including the Santa Rosa region, the Los Angeles area, and the Central Valley.

Executive Director Dawson stated San Jose was selected for the first Listening Forum because the majority of the top ten disability access violations reported in the CCDA's 2021 Annual Report to the Legislature took place in the San Jose area or on the Peninsula. This is an example of how the CCDA is using data to get the tools to the stakeholders that the data shows need it the most.

Discussion

There was no Committee Member discussion and no public comment.

9. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were offered.

10. Adjourn

Chair Lillibridge stated the next Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2023. He asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Commissioner Shapiro moved to adjourn the June 7, 2023, California Commission on Disability Access Legislative Committee meeting. Commissioner Conway seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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