

**CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ACCESS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

August 9, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Guy Leemhuis welcomed everyone and called the meeting of the Executive Committee of the California Commission on Disability Access (CCDA or Commission) to order at approximately 1:30 p.m. at the Law Office of Guy A. Leemhuis, 3685 Main Street, Suite 240, Riverside, 92501.

The off-site meeting locations for teleconference were the Department of Rehabilitation, 721 Capitol Mall, Room 169, 1st Floor, Sacramento, 95814; the City of Los Angeles Department on Disability, 201 North Figueroa Street, Suite 100, Los Angeles, 90012; and Westfield Corp., 2049 Century Park East, 41st Floor, Los Angeles, 90067.

ROLL CALL

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

Commissioners Present:

Guy Leemhuis, Chair
Douglas Wiele, Vice Chair
(Teleconference)
Michael Paravagna (Teleconference)

Other Commissioners Present:

Tiffany Potter (Teleconference)

Staff Present:

Angela Jemmott, Executive Director
Dharon Grayson, AGPA
Rhonda Valdry, Staff Services Manager

Commissioners Absent:

Laurie Cohen Yoo
Betty Wilson

Also Present:

No members of the public addressed the Committee.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (FEBRUARY 8, 2017, AND MAY 10, 2017) – ACTION

MOTION: Commissioner Paravagna moved to approve the February 8, 2017, and May 10, 2017, California Commission on Disability Access Executive Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. Vice Chair Wiele seconded. Motion carried unanimously with one abstention.

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3. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ISSUES NOT ON THIS AGENDA

No members of the public addressed the Committee.

4. COMMITTEE UPDATES - UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

a. Research

This item was tabled to the next Executive Committee meeting.

b. Education and Outreach

This item was tabled to the next Executive Committee meeting.

c. Legislative

Commissioner Paravagna, Chair of the Legislative Committee, stated the survey will be ready to be sent to all state Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) coordinators after one legislative member signs off and the Committee meets with the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) to ensure they are aware of the survey and how it differs from what they do in their Disability Access Services section. The goal of the survey is to evaluate the current state government disability civil rights implementation.

Commissioner Paravagna stated this Committee, along with the Education and Outreach Committee, wants to explore topics and concepts to build the Listening Forum, the first of which was held after the last full Commission meeting in July. The survey at the end of the first Listening Forum will help improve the model. He stated the hope that this effort will assist the Commission in developing a larger constituent base and forming a tighter relationship with members of the Legislature.

d. Checklist

This item was tabled to the next Executive Committee meeting.

5. REPORT BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Executive Director Jemmott presented her report:

a. Administration and Operational

- Efforts have begun to fill vacant staff positions.
- Tiffany Potter has been appointed to the CCDA and will be sworn in at the October 11th full Commission meeting in San Francisco.
- Assembly Member Laura Friedman has been appointed to the CCDA to replace Assembly Member Thurmond.
- The CCDA grant application from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities was denied.

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- Negotiations are beginning on two potential move-in-ready properties.

Commissioner Paravagna suggested that the properties be reviewed by a Certified Access Specialist (CAsp).

1. Proposed 2018 Commission Meeting Calendar

- Two draft proposals for the 2018 CCDA Meeting Calendar were included in the meeting packet.
 - The difference between the proposed calendars is the location of the full Commission meetings: Draft Proposal 1 proposes holding meetings in Fresno, Sacramento, Los Angeles, and San Francisco; Draft Proposal 2 proposes holding all full Commission meetings in Sacramento to reduce spending.

Commissioner Paravagna spoke in support of Draft Proposal 1.

Vice Chair Wiele agreed. He stated one of the issues of the CCDA is a general lack of awareness about the Commission and what it does. It is good to move around, be accessible, and create a presence throughout the state. He stated his concern that stakeholders from Northern and Southern California may not fly to Fresno and it is a far distance to drive.

Commissioner Paravagna suggested adopting Draft Proposal 1 and reconsidering it midyear if it proves financially challenging. Commissioners agreed.

b. Outreach Efforts and Partnering Events

- Staff has received overwhelmingly positive responses from the completed surveys from the July Listening Forum attendees.

Commissioner Paravagna stated combining a forum-type activity with moving around the state will help build a constituency base statewide. He stated the need to look at what worked and what can be done better for the next Listening Forum.

Chair Leemhuis suggested holding full-day Listening Forums instead of holding them after a full Commission meeting.

- The October 11th full Commission meeting will be held at the Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired in San Francisco. It was designed by Commissioner Downey, who will lead Commissioners on a tour and discuss his work.
- Chair Leemhuis and Executive Director Jemmott attended an ADA workshop in Riverside.

Chair Leemhuis shared about a presenter at the ADA workshop who represented a law firm who used the fact that they were a person with a disability to make atypical comments about living as a person with a disability in the community. This presenter also used scare tactics and gave erroneous information about ADA lawsuits. He stated he and Executive Director Jemmott are meeting with members of the Legislature to ask

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them to use the CCDA to provide educational training on the ADA as opposed to someone who represents defendants.

Chair Paravagna stated he and Ida Clair, DSA, presented to the California Mental Health Council on the DSA's role in rulemaking and access and the CCDA.

Chair Paravagna stated he gave a presentation in conjunction with Sally Swanson Architects in Eureka, hosted by Humboldt County, on access and the business world on the 26th, which was the 27th anniversary of the ADA. He stated he presented the Top Ten Lawsuit Violation tool. He met with the county administrator, gave her a copy of the CCDA Accessibility Construction Inspection Checklist, and advised her to implement it in county government to help guard against construction errors.

- Staff put together a PowerPoint Presentation on how to make partners with other agencies to give to Commissioners to ensure that the CCDA can have a presence wherever Commissioners go.

Commissioner Paravagna agreed that it is helpful to carry CCDA resources to hand out where appropriate.

c. Bill Tracking Update

- Not much has changed since the full Commission meeting report. Executive Director Jemmott summarized the CCDA Legislative Status Report, which was included in the meeting packet.

6. BUDGET - DISCUSSION

a. Narrative Regarding 17-18FY

Executive Director Jemmott stated the budget of \$650,000 remains the same for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18. Staff has scheduled meetings with the Department of General Services (DGS) to discuss how working under the DGS will impact the CCDA.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items were offered.

8. ADJOURN

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