



# COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

**MINUTES – 05/22/2025**

**Commission on Disabilities (CoD) General Meeting**

**Meeting Date:** Thursday, May 22, 2025, 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Item No.	Item Description
1.	<u>Review and Approval of Minutes and Agenda:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Members Present: Florence Wong, Evan Milburn, Timothy Ponti, Matthew Cadigan Hearn, Robert Hall, Tryn Miller, Gurpreet Padam, Alexandra Seeber, Lisa Wiener</li><li>• Excused: Kathryn Murdock, May Ong Escudero, Angela Piazza</li><li>• Absent: Michael Donovan, Michelle Yoshimine</li><li>• Staff: Lee Pullen, Anna Sawamura, Diane Madriz, Shawne O'Connell, Anna Dyer</li><li>• Public: Doug Kunze, Gabriela Solval, Helen Ho, Connie Franco, Ava Marie Romero</li><li>• Motion to approve April minutes by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Cadigan Hearn, approved unanimously.</li><li>• Motion to approve May agenda by Commissioner Cadigan Hearn, seconded by Commissioner Hall, approved unanimously.</li></ul>
2.	<u>Meeting Etiquette Reminders</u>
3.	<u>Public Comments:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None</li></ul>
4.	<u>President's Report</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reminder to committees that in October the commission presents to the Board of Supervisors.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Would like one slide per committee, maximum two, not including any photos.</li><li>○ Committees should start thinking now about achievements from this year to include and what they will work on in the coming year.</li></ul></li></ul>
5.	<u>Staff Report:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ADS Director Lee Pullen shared that due to cuts and general uncertainty at the federal level it is more important than ever that the commission be strong with advocacy, let positions be known, and tell our stories.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Director Pullen has spoken with the county's Chief Legislative Officer and they are very open to coming to a General Meeting or a committee meeting to share how to advocate within the county system./</li></ul></li><li>• Staff Liaison reported that Commissioner Stamm /resigned effective 4/24/2025 and Commissioner Escudero will be on temporary leave from the commission from April until the June General meeting.</li></ul>
	Break
6.	<u>Presentation: Officer Slate for July 2025 – June 2026</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commissioner Seeber reported that the Ad hoc committee completed gathering of slate of officers and the following commissioners are up for election:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ President – Florence Wong</li><li>○ Vice President – Evan Milburn</li></ul></li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Secretary – Timothy Ponti</li> <li>• Election will be at the June meeting.</li> <li>• Other Commissioners not named above may self-nominate at the June meeting.</li> </ul>
7.	<p><u>Liaison Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Hall – report out on the Commission on Aging; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Format is very similar to CoD. One sub-committee (Information, Resources, and Community Engagement Committee) focuses on education and outreach. They do a lot of tabling and produce the Help at Home resource Guide.</li> <li>○ Social Isolation and Transportation Committee is focused on addressing isolation among older adults.</li> <li>○ The Commission on Aging meets the second Monday of each month from 9am -11am.</li> <li>○ Commissioner Murdoch may be interested in being liaison to the CoA as Commissioner Hall terms out.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Commissioner Ponti – Veterans Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Has not attended since 12/2024 due to location change</li> <li>○ Many issues arise around housing.</li> <li>○ Topics concerning disabled veterans are also addressed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Commissioner Wong – Arts Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Meets monthly, structure is very different, by Supervisorial District.</li> <li>○ Two people from each district are appointed by the Supervisor.</li> <li>○ Commissioners will say something during public comment at Board of Supervisor meetings to say what the Arts Commission is doing, or if there are issues that affect the arts.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Staff Liaison sent the list of county commissions to everyone. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Commissioners to let Staff Liaison know if they would like to be attend other county commissions and she will facilitate the connection.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
8.	<p><u>CoD Committee Reports:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Committee – Florence Wong, President <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Governance Calendar - if there's something that you notice is a regular occurrence in your committee, please add that to the governance calendar.</li> <li>○ Tabling Opportunities – please remember to continue adding events to the tabling document.</li> <li>○ ACTION ITEM: Recommendation of “Demystifying Disability” as a countywide resource for disability awareness/education. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Motion to approve by Commissioner Milburn, seconded by Commissioner Weiner, approved unanimously.</li> <li>▪ The Executive Committee will draft a letter recommending the book as a resource.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Special Events Committee – Angela Piazza, Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ad hoc committee is meeting 5/23. Committee includes Angela, Florence, Timothy, Evan, and Matthew</li> </ul> </li> <li>• ADA Compliance Committee – Matthew Cadigan Hearn, Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Quorum not met, informational meeting only.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Legislation, Advocacy and Outreach Committee – Evan Milburn, Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cooling Center Survey Project – committee members gathering contact information for Commissioner Weiner to use in sending out the letter.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessible Transportation Committee – Timothy Ponti and Matthew Cadigan Hearn, Chairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Received receipt from the Department of Emergency Management that they have reviewed the letter that had the results of the town hall meeting. Will continue following up with them to see if we can provide additional input.</li> <li>○ Exploration into location for paratransit drop-off at County Center continues with SamTrans. Lynn suggested including representation from Redwood City as well.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
9.	<u>Ex-Officio Member Report Outs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This agenda item will allow for any ex-officio members of the Commission on Disabilities to provide an agency update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Currently recruiting another program manager</li> <li>▪ Ben and Alicia will be going to D.C at the end of July to advocate with representatives against the proposed cuts to Medicaid.</li> <li>▪ Planning an event in July to screen “Crip Camp” in recognition of the ADA anniversary.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ State Council on Developmental Disabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Upcoming statewide trainings; Two Spanish sessions on May 27th &amp; two English sessions on May 29th. 10-11:30 am &amp; 4:30-6 p.m.</li> <li>▪ Statewide trainings calendar: <a href="https://scdd.ca.gov/scdd-trainings/">https://scdd.ca.gov/scdd-trainings/</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
10.	<u>Agenda Items for Next Commission Meeting</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Officer elections</li> <li>• Be Red Cross Ready presentation</li> </ul>
11.	<u>Final Comments</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
12.	<u>Adjournment:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion to adjourn</li> <li>• Next Meeting Date: Thursday, June 26th, 2025</li> <li>• Location: 500 County Center, Manzanita Hall, Redwood City, CA 94063</li> </ul>

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