



COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

“Create, Educate, Advocate and Celebrate!”

LEGISLATION, ADVOCACY & OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Monday, April 13, 2020

3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions

- a) Commissioners present
 - 1. Ligia Andrade-Zuniga, Ashley Roehm, Tryn Miller, Shirley Moore, Evan Milburn, Tim Roake, Florence Wong, Matt Cadigan Hearn, Robert Hall
- b) Staff
 - 1. Andrew Eng
- c) Public
 - 1. Ben McMullin

II. Public Comment

- a) Commissioner Andrade-Zuniga provided three letters and a link for the Commissioners to review; available upon request.

III. Updates on Committee Projects/Work Groups

- a) In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Consumer Focus Groups-Update
 - 1. Emergency caregiver back up options
 - (a) Advocating for having something in place, currently no system in place
 - (b) Governor requested Counties to begin creating a plan for this
 - (c) Commissioner Andrade-Zuniga spoke with Nina Rhee (IHSS) and Janet Hogan (Public Authority) to ask what can get done
 - i. Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County is involved as well
 - ii. Public Authority (PA) is working on a list
 - iii. Additional hours can be allocated if care was affected by COVID-19 shelter in place
 - 1. Currently IHSS and PA unable to share this with the general public
 - (d) Commissioner Andrade-Zuniga spoke with Maya Altman (Health Plan of San Mateo) about employing Nursing Students for IHSS emergency back-up work
 - i. This is something that will be looked at later down the line.
- b) Crimes and Abuse Against People with Disabilities
 - 1. Most activity is postponed for now
 - 2. CORA has seen a decrease in calls, but more activity on their website
 - (a) Reason could be that shelter in place order prevents victims from calling in if they live with their abuser
 - (b) It will be a project to further investigate this later down the line
 - (c) Children are also not seen by someone other than a potential abuser, so anonymous reporting is not in play now.

c) CoD Outreach & Education

1. *Updates on presentations at CoD General Meetings for 2020*
 - (a) Listing of upcoming speakers on google drive, will need to move to One Drive
 - (b) Chris Baughman will need to postpone for May
 - (c) LEAP is currently the May speaker

ACTION ITEM: Commissioner Andrade-Zuniga will reach out to Commissioner Hall to determine if March speaker (now September) can be moved to April

2. Other Business or requests for items to be placed on Agenda for next Meeting
 - (a) Commissioner Roake emailed an article to the group regarding the Coronavirus Bill; an exemption in the bill would allow the Secretary of Education to waive ADA requirements for students with disabilities
 - i. Commissioner Wong suggested we wait for Secretary Devos' amendments to the bill in order to determine at what length these requirements are waived
 - ii. For example, a possible amendment could include that parents can't sue school districts if the delivery of IEDs are impossible due to physical limitations inherent with shelter in place orders.
 - iii. Commissioner Andrade-Zuniga pointed out that districts should have been planning for these limitations and roadblocks
 - iv. Eventually the Commission may want to consider writing a letter to Supervisor Groom
 - v. The Commission decided to wait for any changes before making a decision to act
 - (b) Commissioner Roake brought up Federal Student Loans. Advocates want loans automatically forgiven; very small number of student loans have been erased due to a disability.
 - i. More research will be done to determine if the Commission should act on this.

ACTION ITEM: Commissioner Roake will research this further and report back at the next committee meeting

- (c) Ben McMullin discussed that the Coronavirus relief stipend will not go directly to the individual with a disability if they are claimed as a dependent by their head of household.
- (d) Ben also discussed the SSI 1619B program; people on SSI with some sort of income. Population has not been addressed in previous relief packages.
- (e) Ben explained the "Money Follows the Person" demonstration – started under the Bush administration to fund in-home support services or personal care attendant services. Under the Obama administration there was an extension put in place to make the funds available, but now the funds are running out and current administration does not seem interested in extending this fund. National Council for Independent Living is taking this on in addition to CID.
- (f) Group discussed DMEs being reallocated, such as ventilators, to people

without disabilities. The reason being that administrators see other patients without disabilities as a priority.

- i. Nobody is Disposable, campaign against medical rationing practices, is something the Commission might consider promoting

ACTION ITEM: Commissioner Andrade-Zuniga will investigate this further and update the committee at the next meeting.

- (g) Commissioner Andrade-Zuniga discussed the Consortium of first responders assembled in the County.
 - i. Consortium should receive training, education on working with disabilities population
 - ii. CERT would be a resource to reach out to
 1. Commissioner Wong mentioned the Burlingame Neighborhood Network
 - iii. OES needs to be trained as well on how to share information pertinent to the disabilities community when disasters occur, such as neighborhood watch or CERT contacts
 - iv. A list of volunteer organizations is being put together, commissioners were asked to send any contact information they have to include with a list the Commission on Aging is creating.

Next Meeting:

Monday, May 11, 2020 3:00-4:30 p.m. via Microsoft Teams

Aging and Adult Services Division

Lisa Mancini, Director

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