



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

MEETING MINUTES

*Regular Meeting – October 8, 2021 - 2:00 p.m.
Teleconference*



Members Present: *Kaye Kelley (Chair), Michelle Krug, Jose Gaspar, Karolyn Smith, Candice Custodio-Tan, Sherie Kainz Ibarra, Suzanne Ditmars and Jessica Kramer*

Members Absent:

COSD Staff: *Katie McKnight and Todd Hood*

The meeting was called to order at 2:02pm by Chair Kelley; introductions followed.

Vote to Approve Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes – September 10, 2021

Michelle made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and Karolyn seconded the motion: committee approved.

Non-Agenda Comment

None

Welcome to New Committee Members

Three new members (Karolyn Smith, Candice Custodio-Tan and Jose Gaspar) joined for their first meeting and the committee all gave self-introductions.

San Diego Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities

Guest: Charlene Autolino

This organization has an upcoming virtual job fair, Jobtoberfest, coming up on October 13th from 10am-2pm. They currently have 25 employers participating and 200+ job seekers planning to attend. Organization strives to work with employers to make job seeking accessible and also promote the opportunities of working with persons with disabilities.

Committee also runs the Kevin Starks Memorial Scholarship to assist students with disabilities attending higher education. Scholarships range from \$500 to several thousand each year.

Goal is to get the unemployment rate for persons with disabilities down, as it is currently the highest of any populations.

Michelle provided feedback on accessibility for the blind and those who do not use computers. The job fair is virtual this year and she pointed out that they are not making it easily accessible to those who don't use computers.

Website: www.sdjobtoberfest.org

Accessibility for Board of Supervisor Public Meetings

Guests: Andrew Potter, Clerk of the Board and Ryan Sharp, Assistant Clerk of the Board

Andrew provided a review of the County's actions during the pandemic to make the Board meetings equitable and accessible.

Current virtual process mirrors the in-person process to comment on topics. They have previously updated the online form so that residents can check each topic they want to speak to, rather than a new form for every topic. They make staff available to help those without access to computers.

The County's reason for call in rather than Zoom is to make sure there are not technological barriers as well as security. Only technology needed is phone. New state law requires meeting to stop if the technology platform goes down. Using phones prevents possible system issues. Current set up also has a listen-in phone number so no other tech is needed.

Committee Questions

Michelle brought forth the following concerns:

- The phone number stays the same, but the ID number changes for every meeting
- Zoom allows everyone to raise their hands

She advised that other public entities are moving towards Zoom such as City of San Diego, MTS and SANDAG.

Suzie relayed frustrations about access to wifi and the struggles of getting online for different types of meetings and trainings.

Candice and Jose provided suggestions on how to use Zoom and have the team monitor the chat to maintain control.

Response

Andrew confirmed that there is no separate password requirement, only the meeting ID. He explained that the separate ID provide more control and security to the County. They have also received feedback that Zoom is a barrier for those who don't have access to wifi.

AB 695 Elder and Dependent Adults

This bill was in suspension in Appropriations and stopped. The language was then moved to the Budget trailer bill. The bill passed through the legislature and is now with the governor for signature.

Authorization of Teleconferencing Meeting Option Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)

At the beginning of the pandemic, the state allowed public meetings to occur virtually in violation of the Brown Act. That order expired on 9/30/2021.

The committee must agree monthly to meet virtually.

There will be a standing item on the agenda to vote on a motion to accept the resolution for the following month.

Michelle moved to extend government code 54953(e) for the November meeting. Candice seconded the motion; committee approved.

Committee Membership and Administration

Supervisor Lawson-Remer is pending two appointments.

The committee has applications from applicants who were not chosen by the supervisors, as well as the application for Rickeena who was not re-appointed by her supervisor.

Chair Kelley solicited input from members of the committee on the process to fill the member at large position.

Michelle made a motion to appoint Rickeena Boyd to the member at large position. Suzie seconded the motion and the committee voted to approve her appointment.

Todd and Kate will bring this information to the Clerk of the Board to receive Board confirmation.

Strategic Initiatives

Topics of interest and initiatives for 2022 will be discussed at the November meeting.

Jessica requested to meet more frequently or develop engagement outside the monthly meeting to stay connected.

Meeting Adjournment

Kaye adjourned the meeting at 3:20pm.

The next regular meeting will be held on Friday, November 12, 2021 at 2:00 pm on Zoom. Meeting will have video and presentation capabilities, as well as a dial-in phone number.