



Minutes re 7/12/23 CoD meeting, approved by CoD vote on 8/9/23...the minutes below are printed in bold italics...all other language is the meeting's agenda as originally published.

**Commission on Disability
AGENDA
Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, July 12, 2023 5:00 PM

**Location: 1901 Hearst Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94709
(North Berkeley Senior Center)**

A. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1) Call to Order by Acting Chair Walsh

On behalf of Acting Chair Walsh, who was not present, Commissioner Sun called the meeting to order at 5:05pm. Then the following vote was held:

Motion: *“that Commissioner Sun serve as this meeting’s presiding Commissioner until such time as a Chair is elected.”*

Made by: *Commissioner Sun.*

Seconded by: *Commissioner Lewkowicz*

Ayes: *unanimous.*

Nays: *none.*

Motion passes.

- 2) **Land Acknowledgement:** *The City of Berkeley recognizes that the community we live in was built on the territory of xučyun (Huchiun (Hooch-yoon)), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (Chochen-yo)-speaking Ohlone (Oh-low-nee) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County. This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band. As we begin our meeting tonight, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay. We recognize that Berkeley’s residents have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley’s incorporation in 1878. As stewards of the laws regulating the City of Berkeley, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land, but also*

recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today. The City of Berkeley will continue to build relationships with the Lisjan Tribe and to create meaningful actions that uphold the intention of this land acknowledgement.

3) Roll Call by Secretary

Commissioners present: Rena Fischer, Mina Sun, and Bonnie Lewkowicz.

Commissioners absent: Helen Walsh and Kathi Pugh.

Public members present: Bob Holloway and George Porter.

Staff present: Thomas Gregory and Guillermo Campos.

**4) Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda.
(Up to 3 minutes per speaker)**

George Porter spoke about the potential for productive collaborations between the Commission on Disability and the Commission on Aging (of which he is a member).

Bob Holloway noted the importance of access in Berkeley and the importance of the Commission on Disability's work.

5) Approval of Draft Minutes for June 7, 2023*

The following vote was held:

Motion: "to approve June's draft minutes, as edited to list remote locations with their addresses."

Made by: Commissioner Sun.

Seconded by: Commissioner Lewkowicz.

Ayes: unanimous.

Nays: none.

Motion passes.

6) Approval and Order of Agenda*

The following vote was held:

Motion: "to approve the agenda as is, with the caveat that earlier agenda items need to be addressed mindful of the time necessary to adequately cover all items on the agenda."

Made by: Commissioner Lewkowicz.

Seconded by: Commissioner Fischer

Ayes: unanimous.

Nays: none.

Motion passes.

- 7) **Staff updates re: (a) Commissioner training video on City website, (b) more screen-reader-friendly version of Manual coming, (c) new RFP process re Measure E contract, and (d) ADA Transition Plan due to Caltrans in October.**

B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

The public may speak about any agenda item, and members of the public will have an opportunity to speak prior to any voting regarding an agenda item. (Comments may be limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

1. Nominations and vote for Chair (Action)

Following a process by which all Commissioners in attendance were able to nominate any/all attending Commissioners as candidates for Chair, the following roll-call vote was held:

Motion: “to approve Commissioner Fischer as the Commission on Disability’s Chair.”

Made by: Commissioner Sun.

Seconded by: Commissioner Lewkowicz.

Commissioner Fischer's vote: aye.
Commissioner Sun's vote: aye.
Commissioner Lewkowicz' vote: aye.
Motion passes.

At this point in the meeting, Commissioner Fischer became Chair Fischer and assumed responsibility for presiding over the remainder of the meeting.

- 2. Should the Berkeley Commission on Disability improve meeting accessibility by changing the meeting time, monthly schedule, and meeting location to the North Berkeley Senior (NBSC)? (Action)**

The following vote was held:

Motion: "to change regular CoD meetings to 5pm (from 6pm) on 2nd Wednesdays (from 1st Wednesdays), to change the in-person meeting site to NBSC if possible, and to schedule a special meeting for August of 2023 (for 5pm on second Wed of August)."

Made by: Commissioner Lewkowicz.

Seconded by: Chair Fischer.

Ayes: unanimous.

Nays: none.

Motion passes.

The secretary then pledged to promptly make best efforts to secure the desired new venue.

- 3. Continue to Review the previous year's Commission on Disability work Plan. Discuss and determine next steps for the final draft of the COD work plan for 2023-2024. *Include work plan in packet**
- 4. Open discussion on creating an effective, representative Commission on Disability with logistical practices and communication policies that comply with both the ADA and the Brown Act. A. Update from the secretary about the projects that they are working on. (Discussion)**
- 5. ADA Grievance complaints sent in to ADA Programs Coordinator. What has been resolved and what are still in process of being resolved.***

Re the "2023 Log of Access-related Complaints Received by CoB" (a document contained in the materials packet for this meeting), the Commissioners present expressed that they would have liked to have seen more detail. In the future, Commissioners would like as much specificity as possible when receiving info about access-related complaints lodged with the City in order to best gauge and track accessibility issues that the community confronts. Names and

other private information should not be divulged in order to protect individuals' privacy.

C. Announcements

- 1. Acknowledgement of the July 26, 2023
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 33rd
Anniversary #Thanks to the ADA!**

D. ADJOURNMENT:

The following vote was held at 7:30pm:

Motion: "to adjourn tonight's meeting."

Made by: Chair Fischer.

Seconded by: Commissioner Lewkowicz.

Ayes: unanimous.

Nays: none.

Motion passes.

Agenda Posted: (1) on the bulletin board at Old City Hall at 2134 MLK Jr. Way, (2) at 1901 Hearst Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94709 (North Berkeley Senior Center), and (3) on the City of Berkeley website.

*** Indicates written material included in packet.**

**** Indicates material to be delivered at meeting.**


***** Indicates material previously mailed.**

A complete agenda packet is available for public review on the web at:

<https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/Commissions/Commissions Commission on Disability Homepage.aspx>

Available also at the main library, and Public Works, Engineering Division, 1947 Center Street, 4th Floor.

ADA Disclaimer

 *“This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, or alternative formats, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least 72 hours before the meeting commences. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.*



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