

**Department of Disability and Aging Services (DAS)
Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes**

DATE: Wednesday, February 21, 2024

TIME: 10-11:30am

PLACE: 1650 Mission St. 5th Floor, Golden Gate Room

To protect the health of the Advisory Council members, DAS staff, and members of the public during the COVID-19 health emergency, the DAS Advisory Council will continue to hold meetings remotely. Members of the public are encouraged to also participate in the meetings remotely.

Members Present: Diane Lawrence, Allen Cooper, Margaret Graf, Eva Aber, and Chris Dillon. Morningstar Vancil, Juliet Rothman, Tia Small, Steffany Dignum and Anne Warren, Lisa Cook, Ivy Chang, and Renee Richardson

Members Absent Excused: Darlene Ramlose and Marcy Adelman.

WELCOME: Call to order 10:01am and welcome Council Members and guests

Roll Call/Secretary

Motion to approve January 17, 2023, Meeting Minutes: approved.

Director's Report, Deputy Director Cindy Kauffman:

Deputy Director Kaufmann briefed the Council on upcoming budget hearings and how the budget cuts will affect DAS and its services. The outlook is that existing services will not be affected but there will be a hold on new services.

Spoke also on the upcoming Disability Cultural Center and the progress being made and the work with the community partners and others taking place to design and tailor programs and services that will be offered once constructed and opened.

Members thanked Deputy Kauffman for this report and update.

Public Comment: No public comment

New Business:

- **Area Plan for 2024 presented by Adithi Velore from HSA Planning**

Presenter Velore gave a presentation on the progress report of the Area Plan from FY24-25 to FY 27-28 which is also posted on the DAS Advisory Council Site. Detailed guidance from the CDA and showed the timeline and high-level overview of the process. There will be a full draft of this plan in February to the Council and then over to the DAS Commission and public. Then in March this plan will be brought back to Adv Council for vote and subsequently brought back to the DAS Commission.

Goals and objectives are broken down in 5 goals: Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility; workforce and collaboration; employment and economic security; health and well-being; and safety and care.

Questions from council member Vancil about protection for LGBTQ+ rights for benefits which Deputy Director Kauffman spoke on and council member Rothman asked about other partnerships and inclusion which presenter Velore spoke on and addressed.

Many members spoke on the upcoming changes and presenter Velore wanted to let everyone know that she will send out this report to all members and will be posted and available for the public. Velore also passed out a demographics survey and a digital version for all members.

- **Consumer Grievance Process** presented by Deputy Director Mike Zaugg. Presenter Zaugg thanked the council and gave a history of the complaint/grievance process. The 3rd level of the grievance process for DAS clients is a formal meeting in the Advisory Council. The updated version has the 2nd level ending at 30 days and the 3rd level where the grievance will come to the Advisory Council and might not be comfortable with this being the final say. The council will have a meeting and then will issue an ‘advisory decision’ and the Director Dearman will have 30 days to decide to impart this decision or go in another direction. If the grievance is against the executive director, this will then go to the President of the advisory council. After the 30 days the final decision will be in writing, and this will be the final step in the grievance process.

Council voted unanimously to approve the Consumer Grievance Process.

Member Updates: President Lawrence noted that the first Joint Legislative Meeting of 2024 was prior to the Council meeting.

Site Visit: Mission Neighborhood Center

Adjournment at 11:32am