

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

DATE: Wednesday, October 15, 2025

TIME: 10-11:30am

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

Members Present: Allen Cooper, Margaret Graf, Chris Dillon, Diane Lawrence, Juliet Rothman, Marcy Adelman, Harry Breaux, Lisa Cook, Morningstar Vancil, Beverly Karnatz,

Members Absent Excused: Darlene Ramlose, Tia Small, Ivy Chang,

Welcome: Call to order 10:00 am and welcome all Council Members and guests.

Roll Call/Secretary

Motion to approve the September 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes: Approved.

General Public Comment: No public comment

President's Report by President Dr. Allen Cooper:

TACC report spoke on disaster relief from forest fires in California, specifically Altadena which is a low-income area. Less than 1/3rd of residents were adequately prepared w emergency kits and DAS could help our seniors with that in San Francisco.

IHSS would focus on helping with the needs and preparedness for seniors and persons w/ disabilities in the city.

Director's Report, presented by Executive Director Kelly Dearman:

Speaking on the budget crisis and addressing issues of not being able to serve all the clients DAS usually serves. Through the next year our team will have to make tough decisions on budgets cuts and how best to serve the community.

Today is the Streamlining Task Force meeting at City Hall and we will see what transpires with their findings on the commissions and councils throughout the city.

This month is Disability Employment Training Month; Alice Wong will be at the Disability Cultural Center to speak.

Old Business: none

New Business:

- **Site Visit Reports:**

- Juliet Rothman Richmond Senior Center:

Council member Rothman visited the Richmond Senior Center and spoke on the website, which offers 3 programs for this site but little details of the activities. The actual website is harder to find but does have better details for activities.

On site, we met with Christine Ness who provided details on clients they serve. They have staff that speak different languages to connect with seniors and do various activities. Lunch is served 5 days a week to approximately 100 people and provided free by Project Open Hand. Staff were wonderful and other than signage being hard to discern, I was very pleased with all the services offered.

Members thanked Juliet for the in-depth report and asked about the number of people served and about the need to update the website and signage.

- Diane Lawrence and Ivy Chang Chi Sing Community Center

Council member Lawrence spoke on the daily meals provided and that menus are provided in English and 2 dialects of Chinese. This community center was opened just over a year ago and the building was donated to Self Help for the Elderly 6 years ago.

The building is two stories, and upstairs can serve about 24 people and downstairs serves about 20. Close to public transportation for easy access for residents and we were very happy with all the services and activities provided. They also offer digital literacy training and assistance with naturalization and citizenship for community members.

Council members spoke on how happy they are that this location opened and the success they are having in this neighborhood. Members also asked about accessibility issues and there is an elevator in the center to assist with the disabled community. It was noted there are no vegetarian options.

Reports from the Field:

- LGBTQ+ Update from Marcy Adelman: Special Committee on the state level to address the LGBTQ+ survey was delayed and should happen before the year ends.
- Dianne Lawrence CSL Priorities: Governor had until last Monday to sign all bills and we will speak on them shortly.

Announcements/Reminders

Starting December 2025, all Advisory Council meetings will be held at 2 Gough 3rd Floor DAS Wisdom Room.

Council person attended an accessibility meeting for Sunset Dunes Park and other members spoke on issues of parking at the zoo and the park now.

The budget was cut, and the Native American Fund is no longer active and the Heritage Celebration was cancelled due to the cancellation of these funds.

District 11 is looking forward to opening a new facility with 49 beds.

Adjournment: 11:30 am

Next Meeting: Wednesday November 19, 2025