

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AND AGING SERVICES  
(DAS) COMMISSION

MINUTES September 2, 2026

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME/ President Janet Y. Spears

Due to the absence of President Janet Y. Spears, Commissioner Knutzen called our hybrid meeting to order in City Hall room 416 and virtually stated that the DAS Commission acknowledged they are using the unceded homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples of the San Francisco Peninsula.

The (DAS) Commission Secretary called the roll:

Present Commissioners: Linda Parker Pennington, Martha Knutzen, Wanda Jung, Sascha Bittner, Barbara Sklar, President Janet Y. Spears

Excused Absence: Vice President Nelson Lum

Communications:

Acting DAS Commission Secretary Elizabeth Labarre provided instructions for any members of the public that would like to submit a public comment to the DAS Commission.

Approval of Minutes:

No public comment

Motion from Commissioner Bittner

The motion was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT/ Director Dearman

Director Dearman reported that July was a busy month and we celebrated Disability Pride Month and the National Association of the Deaf held their conference in San Francisco with over 1500 attendees including an appearance by the Mayor.

The USAging Conference was in San Diego in July, and I participated in 4 separate panel discussions including one with Eli Gelardin from DAS ODA and Christina Mills the ED from C4A on disability activism and other discussions on palliative care. Participated in a speaking event on AI and the role of AI in aging services and I was lucky enough to have staff brief me on this subject and we were all reminded that AI can never take the place of the work that we are doing.

In August, Speaker Emeritus Pelosi held a press conference on Women's Equality Day which I

attended and spoke on with DAS Commissioner Sascha Bittner. Last week I spoke on the podcast, “I left my podcast in San Francisco” which is hosted by the Warrior’s hype person and spoke on the services offered by DAS and what we do for the community. Lastly, we celebrated the re-opening of the Southwest Community Center where Self-Help for the Elderly provides meals daily for seniors. The Mayor was in attendance for the ribbon cutting and it was a great event for the community.

DAS EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH September 2026 to Yukihiro ‘Ippei’ Yasuda who is a Medical Social Worker at the DAS Benefits and Resources Hub

- Director Dearman spoke on Ippei’s 10-year anniversary with DAS in San Francisco and his 20<sup>th</sup> year working as a social worker and his upcoming retirement.
- Ippei thanked everyone at DAS and was thankful to be able to work with so many different and diverse people. He was grateful to all his coworkers and clients for making his job at DAS so great over these past 10 years.

CASE REPORT presented by Director Andrea Lazorik

Presenter Lazorik spoke on the July meeting where 25 members were present, and the presentation was by the Catholic Charities Adult Daycare Program which was very informative. This program offers seniors and adults with disabilities experiencing losses of physical functioning, memory, or social support through mental and physically stimulating activities. Medicare does not cover this, but participants can pay via out of pocket, grants, veteran funds, or through sliding scale fees.

In August members were presented information on Hoarding Behavioral programs and services offered. Funding for the 1-1 peer counseling support group for hoarding had been cut but group services still exist.

Case is also working to improve and strengthen continuity of operations since board members change, we want to keep the processes streamlined and consistent for our long-term success. Case is also celebrating 50 years of community and advocacy soon and hope you can join us in this celebration.

Commissioners spoke on the CASE services and how great this organization is.

Item 9 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

No members of the public

Item 10 OLD BUSINESS:

No old business.

Item 11 NEW BUSINESS:

ITEM A IS AN INFORMATIONAL ONLY ITEM THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE A VOTE BY  
THE COMMISSION

- A. Presentation of the DAS FY 26/27 Schedule for Requests for Proposals. INFORMATION ONLY (Presented by Lauren Jarrell and Jennifer Grant)

Presenters Jarrell and Grant gave a detailed presentation of the FY26-27 Request for Proposals schedule and overview. It listed the programs and tentative RFP dates. There are 25 total proposals with 104 grants as it's a busy year.

President Spears asked to clarify which are the 2 programs that needed to go to the BOS and they responded it was the Community Living Fund and the Community Living Fund And Scattered Site Housing and Rental Subsidy Admin.

Commissioner Pennington asked how outreach is done to let the community know about the RFP/Proposal and presenter Grant let them know that it is posted on the HSA site and it is mailed to all grantees and prospective grantees for all RFPs.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Member of the public spoke on a RFP that was not included, which was the District 2 University Senior Center Program that was cut due to cuts to the Dignity Fund. Speaking on how important this program is even though it is not a senior center, many older adults choose not to attend senior centers and enjoy the programs of this program.

Another member of the public spoke on the benefits of the District 2 University program for seniors and the problems it will have for seniors in this district.

ITEM B IS AN ACTION ITEM THAT REQUIRES A VOTE BY THE COMMISSION

- B. Requesting authorization to modify an existing grant with Openhouse for the period of September 1, 2026 to June 30, 2028, in the additional amount of \$24,840 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$148,016. (Presented by Dana Leavitt)

Presenter Leavitt spoke on the request for authorization to modify an existing grant with Openhouse for the period of September 1, 2026 to June 30, 2028, in the additional amount of \$24,840 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$148,016.

Commissioner Jung asked for clarification on the modification amount stating that the amount requested was more than the initial amount stated and presenter Leavitt clarified that the amount needed was greater than what was initially thought.

Commissioner Knutzen commented that this presentation was great and this will help a great number of people and the email from Open House was a great advertisement for this proposal.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment

Motion from Commissioner Bittner 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Jung

The motion was unanimously approved.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM by President Spears