

## **MONTEREY COUNTY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES**

**May 20, 2013 - 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Monterey County Administration Building**

**Monterey Room (2092), Second Floor**

**168 W. Alisal Street, Salinas CA 93901**

**I. ROLL CALL AND GREETING OF VISITORS** – Chair Henry Bergstresser called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

Commissioners Present – Henry Bergstresser, Alma Almanza, Stella Lauerman, Tom Hicks, Wayne Johnson, Michael Bennett, Jose Vasquez and Lilia Chagolla

Commissioners Not Present – Carmelita Garcia, Gabriel Camacho, Steve Matarazzo, Mario Salazar, Steve McCullough, Lew Bauman Olivia Quezada and George Molano.

Guest and Staff Present – Equal Opportunity Officer Irma Ramirez-Bough, Administrative Secretary-Confidential Elisa Cantu, Associate Equal Opportunity Analyst Sonje Dayries and Deputy County Counsel Janet Holmes.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Equal Opportunity Officer Irma Ramirez-Bough reported that the City of Pacific Grove has not replied to her letter regarding appointment of their new representative. She will also contact Supervisor Armenta and inform him that his representative has not attended the Commission's meetings. Staff was directed to agendize this matter for the July meeting.

Commissioner Almanza stated she would like to present Carmelita Garcia with a Certificate of Appreciation.

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Vasquez moved to approve the minutes of March 25, 2013; seconded by Commissioner Bennett; motion carried.

### IV. REVIEW AND APPROVE REVISED BYLAWS – JANET HOLMES, DEPUTY COUNTY COUNSEL

Equal Opportunity Officer Irma Ramirez-Bough announced that Commissioner Matarazzo was the only Commissioner who submitted comments. Ms. Ramirez-Bough, read the submitted comment. The Commissioners had concerns with the use of the word “handicapped.” After further discussion, the Commissioners suggested that the submitted comment be revised to read as follows:

*The Commission’s scope of activities may also include, but is not limited to, advocating public policy that supports the rights of all people with disabilities in Monterey County to live their lives to the fullest extent possible. To achieve this type of public policy, it may be appropriate in the scope of its duties for the Commission to advocate policies and programs that encourage access to public and private buildings and grounds and better access to education and employment for people with disabilities of the community.*

Ms. Holmes reported that the following changes were also made to the Bylaws:

**Article II** – Purpose, Mission and duties, Section 2; c. was deleted;

**Article V** – Vacancies, Removal & Replacement of Members or Officers, Section 1;c: language was changed to allow the commissioners a 48 business hour window rather than a 24 hour window to report an absence.

**Article VI** – Duties of Commission Members, Section 8: shall read: *The completion of the ethics training as required under AB1234 (Chapter 700, 2005).*

**Article XI** – Organization and Procedures, Section 1;a: was deleted from the Bylaws.

**Article XI** – Organization and Procedures, Section 2. County Staff Support now reads as follows:

*The County Equal Opportunity Officer or his/her designee shall be the Executive Secretary to the Commission and shall be responsible for taking minutes of each regular meeting, preparing the same, and for mailing the meeting agenda and informational materials to all Commission members.*

Commissioner Chagolla made a motion to approve the Bylaws as amended, motion seconded by Commissioner Almanza; motion carried.

**V. COMMISSIONER BENNETT'S REPORT**

a. Commissioner Bennett reported that the Fort Ord project is proceeding along with the theater. He stated some permits are on hold because CSUMB wants to incorporate more activities for people with disabilities.

b. Commissioner Bennet reported that he attended the I.H.S.S. and that Ryan Flagg was elected Chair and Commissioner Alma Almanza was elected as the Vice Chair. Commissioner Almanza reported that the Court has decided that 8% of the hours for recipients will be cut instead of the 20% previously proposed.

**VI. OUTREACH REPORT**

Commissioner Lauerman provided the Commissioners with a spread sheet of scheduled presentations to the cities. Commissioner Lauerman went over the power point. She stated the City Clerks are adamant that the presentation cannot be longer than 5 minutes. Therefore, she had to delete some of the slides. Commissioner Lauerman requested the cooperation of the Commissioners in presenting to the cities. Commissioner Bennett volunteered to present to the City of Marina. Commissioner Almanza volunteered to make phone calls to schedule presentations. Commissioner Hicks stated he was not clear on the purpose of the presentations. Commissioner Lauerman replied that this is informational, to get the word out of who we are, what we do and how to get a hold of us. Some people have no idea that the Commission on Disabilities exists. Commissioner Lauerman stated that recruitment is also part of the presentation.

**VII. COMMISSIONER CHAGOLLA'S REPORT**

Commissioner Chagolla reported that she has attended about nine meetings of the Operational Area coordination Council (OACC). The Council is in the process of developing a plan on how to better prepare to provide services in case of a disaster; how can they be

more inclusive. Commissioner Chagolla stated the OACC is equipped to provide services to people with disabilities, e.g. interpretation, translation and access to people with disabilities.

### **VIII. GOALS FOR 2013 – COMMISSIONER ALMANZA**

Commissioner Almanza reported that some of the goals have been accomplished. For example Goals 2 and 3 have been accomplished. She stated that Goal 1, ADA Transition Plan will probably not be accomplished this year. Commissioner Lauerman suggested that maybe this should be a two-year plan. Commissioner Chagolla agreed stating that some Commissioner leave, some are new and that one year does not give one enough time to learn and execute . Commissioner Almanza suggested having a retreat and have Yvonne Walker be the facilitator, to help the Commission accomplish their goals. Ms. Ramirez-Bough commented that she will not be in the week of July 29<sup>th</sup>. However, the Commission can go ahead with the Retreat. After further discussion, it was decided that the Retreat can be held in September, with a regular meeting in July. Ms. Ramirez-Bough also reported that the Commissioner's binders will have to be updated. Since the adoption of the Equal Opportunity Plan for County of Monterey, policies have been updated. At the Retreat, the Commissioners will be provided with the updated policies, newly adopted Bylaws and any other material that has been updated.

### **IX. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Report from Commissioner Bennett  
Report from Commissioner Chagolla  
Invite Maia Carroll to the July meeting  
Sensitivity training  
Retreat in September

### **X. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS**

- Commissioner Hicks reported that construction of Tatum's Garden will begin soon. This will be a fully inclusive and accessible playground for all children.

### **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.