

Minutes for the Monterey County Commission on Disabilities



Minutes

MONDAY, April 24, 2006 2:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

MINUTES FOR THE
MONTEREY COUNTY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
MONTEREY COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
MONTEREY ROOM, RM. 2092, SECOND FLOOR
168 W. ALISAL ST. – SALINAS, CA 93901

I. ROLL CALL AND GREETING OF VISITORS

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present –Alma Almanza, MaryLea Almeida, James Cromarty, Robert Davis, Carolyn Hinds, John Pinio, Manuel Ramos and Management Analyst III Jeff Tillery designee for Charlene Wiseman.

Commissioners Not Present – Amy Allard, James Bogan, Anna Foglia, James M. Krossa, and Sam Trevino.

Guests and Staff Present – Central Coast Center for Independent Living BPAO Specialist Leticia Martinez; Workforce Investment Board Staff Support Coordinator Rosary Moreno; Assistant County Counsel Lee Blankenship; Equal Opportunity Officer David Medrano; Equal Opportunity Analyst Sonjé Dayries; and Administrative Secretary Elisa Cantu.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of March 27, 2006 were approved.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Leticia Martinez – Central Coast Center for Independent Living BPAO Specialist

Leticia Martinez, Central Coast Center for Independent Living BPAO Specialist, gave a presentation on the availability of work incentives for disabled individuals who want to work. Ms. Martinez stated that many disabled individuals want to work but are afraid that if they work they will lose their social security benefits. However, there are various work incentive programs that may allow them to work and maintain their benefits. Ms. Martinez stated that there is a program that allows individuals to try working to see if they can, without

worrying about it affecting their benefits. Anyone wanting to know how earning wages would affect Social Security benefits of disabled persons should contact Ms. Martinez for more information.

B. Rosary Moreno – Workforce Investment Board Staff Support Coordinator

Rosary Moreno, Workforce Investment Board Staff Support Coordinator, gave a presentation on a plan to recognize employers who have hired and retained individuals with disabilities and individuals with disabilities who have successfully obtained employment. The event is scheduled for July 31, 2006. Ms. Moreno, on behalf of the Monterey County Workforce Investment Board, requested support and/or sponsorship from the Commission on Disabilities for this event. Equal Opportunity Analyst Sonjé Dayries will participate in the planning meetings for the event.

Commissioner Almanza made a motion to support the WIB event and to hold the July 31, 2006 Commission on Disabilities meeting at the WIB facilities; motion seconded and carried.

C. Recognition of Cities, Organizations, and Businesses with Best Practices Regarding Disability Issues

Commissioner Cromarty provided copies of a newspaper article highlighting the City of Greenfield's efforts to improve safety in dangerous pedestrian areas by equipping certain areas of town with accessible sidewalks. Equal Opportunity Officer David Medrano suggested that the Commission send a copy of the minutes from today's meeting to the City of Greenfield notifying them that this issue was discussed by the commission. Commissioner Davis made a motion to table the discussion of how the commission could recognize cities, organizations, and businesses; motion seconded and carried.

D. Date for Barbecue

Commissioner MaryLea Almeida made a motion to schedule the September 25, 2006 commission meeting to convene at Noon at Royal Oaks Park followed by a barbecue; motion seconded and carried.

E. Ad-Hoc Committee Report

Commissioner Almanza presented a report from the Ad-hoc committee detailing recommended amendments to the bylaws. Assistant County Counsel Lee Blankenship will provide the commission with a draft version of the bylaws and the recommended amendments at the next meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Outreach Committee Report - Commissioner Bogan was not present.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENT AND EVENTS

None.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA

A. Chair Pinio requested an agenda item, to discuss the possibility of a site visit to the new hospitality building at Laguna Seca.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Pinio declared the meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

