



Disability  
**CDFFA** Advisory  
Committee

**Disability Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
held on June 21, 2018  
at the California Department of Food and Agriculture Room 261  
2800 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833**

**Teleconference location:  
California Department of Food and Agriculture  
1220 N Street, Conference Room 114  
Sacramento, CA 95814**

The meeting was called to order by Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) Chair, Peggy Blincoe at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was taken and there was a quorum of the meeting.

**DAC Members:**

Members Present:

Peggy Blincoe, Amanda Brown, David DaSilva, Dominique Degrate-Word, Ron Nies, Kapua Kahumoku, Stacie Oswald (Alt), Thamara Rodgers, Timothy Valles

Members Absent:

Kathy Diaz-Cretu, Christina Mitchell (Alt), Colleen Murphy, Mara Noelle, Celeste Payne (Alt), Dave Preciado (Alt), Niki Weber (Alt)

**DAC Advisors:** Stephanie Kerr

**Other Attendees:** Melinda DeHerrera Rogers

**Approval of Minutes**

The May 17, 2018 meeting minutes were presented but not reviewed and discussed at this meeting.

**EEO Office Update**

Stephanie Kerr provided the EEO update.

- EEO is continuing its efforts related to the Upward Mobility Plan. The Upward Mobility Plan was launched and a total of 26 applications have been received.
- Stephanie Kerr attended the Public-Sector Labor and Employment Legal update held by the California Department of Human Resources. The course provided an overview of the latest developments in labor and employment Law impacting State of California personnel and those who work on state employee personnel matters. The overview included an explanation and discussion of the latest court cases, administrative decisions, and state and federal legislation and regulations.

## **Statewide Disability Advisory Council (SDAC) Update**

DAC Chair Peggy Blincoe and DAC Advisor Stephanie Kerr attended the SDAC meeting via webinar.

- Members are encouraged to listen and participate in-person or via telephone or webcast.

## **Financial Report**

DAC Secretary Dominique Degrate-Word reported that there is no change to the current balance of \$297.25 in the DAC Treasury.

## **Outreach Updates**

DAC Chair Peggy Blincoe provided an update on the current outreach activities that DAC member Mara Noelle has been coordinating with K-9 Companions. They are working on providing a presentation to CDFA staff in the Fall of 2018.

In addition, the first DAC hosted lunchtime event with the Society for the Blind (SFTB) was approved. Dates and locations are listed below. This event will host Diane Starin, from SFTB, who will provide insight about working with colleagues who are blind or have low vision.

- Tuesday, June 12, 12-1p.m., CDFA Headquarters, Bistro  
1220 N Street (6 people were in attendance) \*
- Tuesday, June 19, 12-1p.m., CDFA Plant Lab, Large Conference Room,  
3294 Meadowview Road (5 people were in attendance) \*
- Tuesday, June 28, 12-1 p.m., CDFA GWO-North, Room 101  
2800 Gateway Oaks Drive (had not yet occurred as of this meeting)

At the time of this meeting, two of the three lunchtime events have taken place.

## **Old Business**

### **Status on Bylaw Amendments**

DAC Chair Peggy Blincoe provided an update on the bylaws amendment project. A subcommittee was created of DAC members Amanda Brown, David DaSilva and Kapua Kahumoku. DAC members discussed the bylaws in length. Discussions on length of terms, officer transitions, secretarial duties, and alternate member responsibilities were the main focus. The subcommittee was tasked with reviewing and revising the DAC Bylaws based on recommendations by DAC members and current practices. A draft will be provided for review at the next DAC meeting.

DAC Secretary Dominique Degrate-Word asked for assistance in providing temporary help in August and September with some of the DAC secretarial duties due to an increase in workload. DAC Vice Chair Kapua Kahumoku and DAC Advisor Stephanie Kerr offered their assistance. In addition, concerns were brought up about DAC members, their alternates and their respective duties.

During the discussion, a question was raised on changing the meeting frequency from monthly to bi-monthly. No decision was made at the meeting.

## **New Business**

No new business was discussed.

**Next Meeting**

The next DAC meeting will be held at 9:00 on Thursday, July 19, 2018 at CDFA, Gateway Oaks Drive, 2800 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833. Teleconference location will be at CDFA, Headquarters, 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

**Public Comment**

DAC Chair Peggy Blincoe discussed thoughts on ensuring that DAC Committee members stay motivated and the importance of having an active DAC within the department. She posed the question asking if DAC Committee members would be interested in presentations from other representatives, within the state, to provide the DAC Committee useful information that could then be shared with the department.

DAC members were encouraged to provide ideas on future presentation topics. Members can submit suggestions either at future meetings or by emailing DAC at [cdfa.disability\\_advisory\\_committee@cdfa.ca](mailto:cdfa.disability_advisory_committee@cdfa.ca).

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by DAC Chair Peggy Blincoe at 9:57 a.m.

Submitted by: Dominique Degrade-Word, DAC Secretary