



Disability
CDFA Advisory
Committee

**Disability Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Held on Wednesday, September 18, 2019
at the California Department of Food and Agriculture
2800 Gateway Oaks Drive, Room 261
Sacramento, CA 95833**

**Teleconference location:
California Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 N Street, Conference Room 133
Sacramento, CA 95814**

DAC MEMBERS:

Members Present: Peggy Blincoe, Amanda Brown, Chris Cox (Alt), David DaSilva, Mike Francesconi, Ronald Nies, Stacie Oswald (Alt), Jeffery Richard (Alt), Tim Valles (Alt), Sean Veling

Members Absent: David Bott (Alt), Kathy Diaz (Alt), Christina Mitchell, Colleen Murphy-Vierra (Alt), Thamara Rogers, Athar Tariq, Sarah Wassmund (Alt), Niki Weber

DAC ADVISORS: Stephanie Kerr

CALL TO ORDER

The Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) Chair Peggy Blincoe called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

DAC Advisor Stephanie Kerr conducted the roll call for the DAC. There was a quorum present. No attendees were present via teleconference.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DAC Chair Peggy Blincoe asked the DAC for a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on August 15, 2019.

After noting a spelling correction to the name of DAC Alternate Member Jeffery Richard, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by the DAC to approve the minutes from the meeting held on August 15, 2019.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY OFFICE UPDATE

DAC Advisor Stephanie Kerr provided information on the Department's updated web media policy which contains new Americans with Disability Act compliance standards. If DAC members have questions they should contact the EEO Office for more information.

FINANCIAL REPORT

There was no change to the balance in the DAC Treasury. The current balance is \$297.25.

AD-HOC COMMITTEE FOR OUTREACH UPDATE

DAC Chair Peggy Blincoe reported that the outreach event with the Capitol Therapy Dogs scheduled for Friday, September 13, 2019 at the Department's Meadowview location was cancelled for failure to get timely approval and notification. A two-week lead time is necessary for future events. Capital Therapy Dogs may be rescheduled for a future date.

The DAC Chair also reported that the Committee will participate in the California Disability Employment Awareness Fair hosted by the California Highway Patrol (CHP) at the State Capitol on Thursday, October 10, 2019. There are still two time slots available for DAC member volunteers. The Department's EEO Office needs the list of DAC volunteers by Friday, September 20.

Regarding Departmental email blasts, October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month and an email blast will be sent out to CDFA employees to raise awareness about disability employment issues and celebrate the contributions of America's workers with disabilities.

For the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) consideration update, the DAC will revisit the topic under the public comment section.

OLD BUSINESS

FURTHER UPDATE ON BYLAWS

DAC Vice Chair David DaSilva reported that he is working on providing a comparison of the current DAC Bylaws with the updates drafted in 2018. Once DAC Members have a chance to review, the Committee can determine if it would like to move forward with recommending these changes to the Executive Office.

POSSIBLE DISCUSSION ON OFFICE LIGHTING UPDATE

DAC will revisit this topic at the October Committee meeting and discuss conducting an employee survey.

OTHER

DAC Member Amanda Brown asked to revisit the discussion about the October 10, 2019 CHP event and whether Committee members were able to locate handouts for the event. DAC Advisor Stephanie Kerr reported that the EEO Office has handouts for the Department's table. DAC Chair Peggy Blincoe suggested that the DAC could use some of its Committee funds to purchase an inexpensive item like stress balls, pens, or bookmarks for distribution. DAC Member Mike Francesconi introduced a motion to approve up to \$200 in DAC funds for unbranded giveaway items for the Department's table at the CHP event. DAC Member Amanda Brown seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Laura Bemis from NAMI presented information about the organization's "In Your Own Voice" program. Typically, two speakers will provide their life stories on living with a mental disability and focus on recovery. NAMI also has a "Plus" program where a family member speaks to provide a family perspective. One of these programs could be a good future outreach event for the DAC to host.

Laura Bemis also discussed that NAMI has an annual walk the first weekend of May in Sacramento's William Land Park. It is NAMI's biggest fundraising event of the year. She also discussed programs offered by NAMI, including peer-to-peer classes (8 week classes for those living with disabilities) and family-to-family classes (meant for caregivers). Finally, Laura discussed the Stop Stigma Sacramento Speakers Bureau and the Journey of Hope collaborative art exhibit which pairs writers with local artists to share stories of hope and recovery.

Following the presentation by Laura Bemis, DAC Member Mike Francesconi introduced a motion to have NAMI/Stop Sigma Sacramento present a brown bag lunch event sponsored by DAC. DAC Member Jeffery Richard seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the Committee. A date for the event will be discussed at a future DAC meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next DAC meeting will be held Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the CDFA Facility located at:

**2800 Gateway Oaks Drive
Conference Room 261
Sacramento, CA 95833.**

Teleconference Location: CDFA, Headquarters, 1220 N Street, Room 133, Sacramento, CA 95814

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by DAC Chair Peggy Blincoe at 9:37 a.m.

Submitted by: Amanda Brown, DAC Committee Secretary