

MINUTES

IRVINE RESIDENTS WITH DISABILITIES **ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

April 7, 2015

Irvine Civic Center, Conference Room L102 One Civic Center Plaza Irvine, California

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Irvine Residents with Disabilities Advisory Board was called to order on April 7, 2015, at 6:01 p.m. in Conference Room L102, Irvine Civic Center, One Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, California; Chair St. Amant presiding.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 9 **BOARDMEMBER:** MEENA CHOCKALINGAM

> JULIE GARCIA **BOADRMEMBER: DAVID GIBBONS** BOARDMEMBER: **BOARDMEMBER:** FRAN GUSTIN **PAUL HARVEY** BOARDMEMBER: KIMBERLYJEWELL **BOARDMEMBER: DENNIS NIGGL BOARDMEMBER:**

> **BOARDMEMBER:** RICHARD ROBERT ERIK ST. AMANT

VICE CHAIR:

ABSENT: ANDREA DRAYER **BOARDMEMBER:**

BOARDMEMBER: GREGORY FELIX

BOARDMEMBER: JAMES SHIN BARBARA STERN **BOARDMEMBER:**

JUNE McLAUGHLIN CHAIR:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Vice Chair St. Amant.

INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chair St. Amant introduced Councilwoman Schott and Goodwill Industries Lead Job Developer Jenny Robert.

PRESENTATIONS

Goodwill Industries Lead Job Developer Jenny Robert provided a presentation on Goodwill Industries which provides job placement and counseling services for people with disabilities. The program offers many free services including initial employment assessments, goal setting for job seekers, individualized job searches, resume development and interview coaching.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS/BOARD REPORTS

1. Staff Announcements

- Irvine Host Town Chairperson Lissa Pestolesi will provide an update on the Special Olympics World Games 2015 Irvine Host Town program at the May 5, 2015 Board meeting.
- City of Irvine Senior Services staff will provide a presentation on senior classes and programs at the June 2, 2015 Board meeting.

2. Boardmember Announcements

- Boardmember Gibbons updated the Board on the special joint meeting of the Board with the Senior Council that was held on Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9 a.m. at Lakeview Senior Center. The special joint meeting was a forum to gain input from the Board, Senior Council and the public for the development of a Parks and Facilities Master Plan. Recommendations for enhancing access for people with disabilities included an Ability Park, specialized drop-in centers with focus on particular special needs, more accessible parking and making existing community facilities more accessible for special needs.
- Vice Chair St. Amant updated the Board on the Abilities Expo held March 6-8, 2015 at the Los Angeles Convention Center. The Expo showcased new technologies and ability-enhancing products and services, featured a wide range of workshops, and demonstrations of specialized equipment.
- Boardmember Gustin provided an update on the Housing Task Force for the Developmentally Disabled. She updated the Board on Alegre

Apartments, a new affordable housing project in Irvine for people who are developmentally disabled, with an anticipated move-in date of July 1, 2015. Boardmember Gustin promoted establishment of an Irvine Housing Exchange Website to function as a forum for families and individuals who are interested in housing opportunities for the developmentally disabled.

 Boardmember Harvey spoke about the importance of employment for people with special needs and urged the Board to maintain focus on this issue. He stated that the desire to work and fulfillment of social needs is very important for workers who are developmentally disabled and ought to be emphasized more than how much workers earn.

3. Community Awards Program

Vice Chair St. Amant nominated Albertson's store managers Michelle Foster and Ron Hobbs. Boardmember Niggl will conduct manger interviews and report back at the May 5, 2015 Board meeting.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APPROVAL OF IRVINE RESIDENTS WITH DISABILITY SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

ACTION: Moved by Boardmember Gibbons, seconded by Boardmember Jewell and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the Irvine Residents with Disabilities Advisory Board regular meeting held March 3, 2015.

AYES:

Chockalingam, Garcia, Gibbons, Gustin, Harvey, Jewell, Niggl,

Robert, St. Amant.

NOES:

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9

ABSENT: 5

Drayer, Felix, McLaughlin, Shin, Stern

BOARD BUSINESS

There was none.

BOARD DISCUSSION

1. PARKS AND FACILITIES MASTER PLAN EQUAL ACCESS FOCUS GROUP UPDATE

Update provided by Boardmembers Gibbons, Jewell and Garcia.

ADJOURNMENT at 7:30 p.m.

Erik St. Amant, Vice Chair

Susie Blanco

Community Services Supervisor