



MINUTES

IRVINE RESIDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING

February 7, 2023

Irvine Civic Center, Meeting Room L102

1 Civic Center Plaza

Irvine, CA 92606

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Irvine Residents with Disabilities Advisory Board (Board) was called to order at 6:01 p.m. on February 7, 2023, in meeting room L102 at the Irvine Civic Center, 1 Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, California; Chair Kim presiding.

ROLL CALL

| | | | |
|----------|---|---------------|-------------------|
| Present: | 9 | Board Member: | Katherine Claxton |
| | | Board Member: | RJ De Rama |
| | | Board Member: | Andrea Drayer |
| | | Board Member: | Tala Fazeli |
| | | Board Member: | Janie Mulrain |
| | | Board Member: | Pamela Torres |
| | | Board Member: | Mimosa Tran* |
| | | Vice Chair: | Liza Krassner |
| | | Chair: | Jennifer Kim |

**attended virtually*

| | | | |
|---------|---|---------------|----------------|
| Absent: | 1 | Board Member: | Michelle Smith |
|---------|---|---------------|----------------|

PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETING

Ryan McGraw, Community Services Supervisor, provided instructions on how to participate in the Board meeting for those attending via Zoom or in person.

INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor McGraw introduced the following Community Services staff:

- Kelsey Bryant, Senior Leader-EPT
- Athena Martinez, Administrative Secretary

1. PRESENTATIONS

1.1 Disability Friendly Community Member Award

Chair Kim presented this award to Julie Meves for exceptional and impactful service to persons with disabilities in the Irvine Unified School District educational system.

1.2 The Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders

Dr. Chelsea O’Haire, Licensed Clinical Psychologist, provided a presentation on the programs and services offered through the Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders.

Discussion included: intake process; accessibility for workshop participants (deaf, hard of hearing, visually impaired, etc.); echo autism opportunities; waitlists and impacts due to delay of service.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDIZED ITEMS

This item taken out of order to accommodate schedules.

Robin Cowan, resident, commented on presentation by Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders and stated the following:

- More needs to be done to address the two-year wait period for assessments.
- Closed captioning should be provided during presentations for the hearing
- Need for changes in diagnostic criteria for females with autism.
- Research opportunities should be shared.

1.3 Children’s Hospital Orange County Family Agencies Schools Together

Elissa Green Kaustinen Director of Family Agencies Schools Together (FAST), provided a presentation on the programs and services offered through FAST.

Discussion included: rebranding to serve a wider audience; staffing challenges due to high demand for psychologists specialized in serving the population of individuals with Autism.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

Chair Kim read the following public comments on behalf of resident Angie Foster:

- Requested the City add more one-on-one aide support for children needing additional assistance to participate in recreation programs, particularly for middle school through high school aged students.
- Requested more options for inclusive classes.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor McGraw made the following announcements:

- The Sweethearts Ball will be held on February 10 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Lakeview Senior Center.
- Fliers for winter quarter programming available, as well as rack cards with QR codes containing additional information.

BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Member Mulrain provided a handout with information about the Friendship Line California, which is a free crisis intervention hotline and a warmline for non-emergency emotional support calls.

Board Member De Rama made the following announcements:

- OC Makapo Aquatics project will resume programming post-COVID closures.
- Will participate on a team of visually impaired outrigger paddlers, rowing from Catalina Island to Newport Beach on April 2; event will be live streamed.
- Irvine Unified School District will host the Special Education Community Advisory Committee Inclusion Matters Event on March 15 at Northwood High School.

Vice Chair Krassner thanked the Board and staff for support provided after the loss of her husband.

2. BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

2.1 Community Advocacy and Outreach

Board Member Mulrain reported on the recent subcommittee visit to Hope Center for the Arts to learn about programs offered to individuals with developmental challenges or on the autism spectrum. Crafts made by participants are also sold to promote independence and self-sufficiency.

Board Member De Rama reported Hope Center for the Arts is a well-run and comprehensive center offering a wide variety of programs.

Board Member Fazeli reported Hope Center for the Arts was previously located in Anaheim for 30 years and recently relocated to Irvine.

Board Member Mulrain reported the next nominee for the Disability Friendly Community Member Award is Dr. Sabrina Schuck, a University of California, Irvine Assistant Clinical Professor with the Developmental/Behavioral Pediatrics Department.

2.2 Access and Functional Needs

Board Member Fazeli reported on progress being made with contacting the City of Irvine Code Enforcement department to ensure construction projects are adhering to ADA laws when working near or blocking accessible pathways.

2.3 Special Projects and Collaborations – No report.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

3. BOARD BUSINESS

3.1 MINUTES

Chair Kim requested a correction to the spelling of Julie Meves' name on the minutes.

ACTION: Moved by Board Member Drayer, seconded by Board Member Claxton, and unanimously carried by those members present (Board Member Smith absent) to approve the minutes of a regular meeting of the Irvine Residents with Disabilities Advisory Board held on November 1, 2022, as amended.

END OF BOARD BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Vice Chair Krassner, seconded by Board Member Mulrain, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Jennifer Kim

BOARD CHAIR

5-2-23

Date Approved



Ryan McGraw
Community Services Supervisor
Recording Secretary

Signature: 
Jennifer Kim (Jul 11, 2023 06:29 PDT)

Email: jenniferandpeterkim@gmail.com