

# **MINUTES**

# IRVINE RESIDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING

May 7, 2024
Sweet Shade Ability Center
15 Sweet Shade
Irvine. CA 92606

# CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Irvine Residents with Disabilities Advisory Board (Board) was called to order at 6:12 p.m. on May 7, 2024, at Sweet Shade Ability Center, 15 Sweet Shade, Irvine, California; Chair Kim presiding.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Present:

Board Member:

RJ De Rama

Board Member:

Andrea Drayer Tala Fazeli

Board Member:

Janie Mulrain Pamela Torres

Board Member: Vice Chair:

Liza Krassner

Chair:

Jennifer Kim

Absent:

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Board Member:

Katherine Claxton

Board Member:

Pamela Torres

#### PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETING

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

#### INTRODUCTIONS

There were no introductions.

#### 1. PRESENTATIONS

1.1 Disability Friendly Community Member Award – Orange County Asperger Support Group

This award was presented to Judi Uttal, President of Orange County Asperger Support Group, who accepted the award on the group's behalf.

# 1.2 Project SEARCH

Adriana Zamora and Diana Nevarez with Project SEARCH provided a presentation on the organization's services, goals, community partners, and resources.

Discussion included: referral process; participant enrollment; employment rate upon completion of program; challenges; differences between Project SEARCH and the Paid Internship Program.

# 1.3 Makapo Aquatics Project

RJ De Rama, Board Member and founder of Makapo Aquatics Project, provided a presentation on the organization's history, vision, values, programs, services, and international work.

Discussion included: events and volunteer opportunities.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS - NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

There were no public comments.

#### STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Espinosa provided the following updates:

- Sweet Shade Universal Playground project is a third of the way through the projected timeline.
- Disability Friendly Community Member Award recipients will now be featured on the City of Irvine Flickr website.

#### **BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Board Member Mulrain made the following announcements:

- Shared new policies that affect individuals with disabilities who receive low-income Social Security income and benefits.
- Praised the new Irvine Connect shuttle service and encouraged fellow Board members to promote and use the service.

Vice Chair Krassner made the following announcements:

- Irvine Global Village Festival is taking place on Saturday, October 5, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and will feature two new areas this year: Sports and Games Arena and Junior Makers.
- The City is inviting residents to participate in public arts visioning sessions to provide input for consideration towards the Public Arts Master Plan.

Chair Kim made the following announcements:

- Reflected on the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD) Abilities Awareness Event and CicloIRVINE outreach opportunities that took place in April and May.
- Upcoming TASH Conference taking place in New Orleans, Louisiana from December 5-7, 2024.
- Upcoming National Down Syndrome Congress annual convention taking place in Phoenix, Arizona from July 25-28, 2024.

#### 2. BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

# 2.1 Community Advocacy and Outreach

Chair Kim reported the following:

- Discussed feedback from the Board's annual report to the Community Services Commission on March 7, 2024.
- Reviewed resident use of Disability Services Programs and shared data on the number of Regional Center clients living in Irvine.
- Social media engagement opportunities.
- Upcoming participation in City events.

## 2.2 Access and Functional Needs - No report.

# 2.3 Special Projects and Collaborations

Board Member Mulrain reported the following:

- IUSD Special Education teacher of over twenty years, Liz Sulack, will be presented the Disability Friendly Community Member Award at the next regular meeting.
- Board Member Mulrain will be presenting to the Board on public benefits at the next regular meeting.

#### ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

#### 3. BOARD BUSINESS

#### 3.1 MINUTES

ACTION: Moved by Board Member Drayer, seconded by Board Member Mulrain, and unanimously carried by those members present (Board Members Claxton and Torres absent) to approve the minutes of a regular meeting of the Irvine Residents with Disabilities Advisory Board held on February 6, 2024.

### **END OF BOARD BUSINESS**

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Vice Chair Krassner, seconded by Board Member Fazeli, and unanimously carried to adjourn the regular Board meeting at 7:45 p.m.

BOARD CHAIR

Brandee Sendziak

Community Services Program Coordinator

Recording Secretary

8/6/2024

Date Approved