



City of Oakland

Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities (MCPD)
Monday, December 18, 2023 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Hearing Room 1, First Floor
One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza (City Hall), Oakland, CA 94612

Minutes

Commissioners: Cathy Eberhardt (Acting Chair), Noah Smith (Acting Vice Chair), Ayanna Keeton, Marjorie Lynne, Fatimah Aure, Barry Robinson, Linda St. Julian, Anwar Baroudi, Benjamin Bartu

Commission staff: Anh Nguyen-ADA Programs Division Manager, Mark Romoser-ADA Programs Division Program Analyst I

Presenters: Britney Davis and Asha Reed, City Clerk's Office

Other attendees: Angel Lin, Jestin Johnson, Howard Ekundayo

Mark Romoser begins the meeting with a reminder of rules for in-person meetings:

- No food or open drink allowed in Hearing Room 1 to maintain a clean and professional environment.
- Drinks must be in a closed container to prevent any spills or accidents.
- When commissioners speak- please press the top-red button that says "mic" and when you are finished, please press the button again.
- To ensure clarity and transparency, when commissioners speak, please state your name before speaking.
- When a member of the audience is speaking or commenting- please first state your name and any affiliations you may have.
- Restrooms are located outside Hearing Room 1, near the elevators.

Roll Call

- At roll call, quorum was established with six of nine commissioners present (X).

Commissioners	Present (x)
Cathy Eberhardt (Chair)	X
Noah Smith (Vice Chair)	X
Ayanna Keeton	Absent
Marjorie Lynne	X
Linda St. Julian	X
Fatimah Aure	Absent (excused)
Barry Robinson	Absent (excused)
Anwar Baroudi	X
Benjamin Bartu	X

Open Forum:

- Lenore Gunst from the Mayor's Commission on Aging gave a report. There is funding for two vacant positions in Adult and Aging Services, and another position has been filled starting in January. New commissioners came on board, but another resigned. Council President Bas is running for supervisor. Some meetings will be held in the four senior centers, starting in Feb. at the East Oakland Senior Center. They hosted a delegation of legislative aides and budget and program analysts from the legislature, sponsored by AARP. They went to Berkeley, Fremont, and Oakland. It was held at North Oakland Senior Center. They also have a communications platform two-year pilot funded by the sugar-sweetened beverage tax. Partner sites include Unity Council and the city. With this platform, they can push information out to seniors who aren't members of the senior centers. The platform will be run by 211 (Eden I&R). Sen. Atkins' office, Senate Human Services, Asm. Quirk-Silva, Senate Republican Caucus attended. Next meeting 2/7 at East Oakland Senior Center. Regarding a complaint about AC Transit: should we be more proactive? The Realign Project has not sought any input from us. There will be a January meeting at City Hall, and Older Americans Day in August

Approval Of Minutes

- Acting Chair Eberhardt called for a motion to approve the October and November 2023 minutes. Motion made by Lynne, seconded by Baroudi. Chair called for a vote. The vote was 6 aye, 0 nay. The minutes were approved.

Commissioner's Announcements

- Commissioner Lynne asked why we couldn't have offsite meetings like MCOA will be having. Commissioner Bartu asked if some members could participate remotely. Anh Nguyen replied that the offsite MCOA meetings were still in-person meetings, and that the requirements of AB 2449 applied to remote participation.
- Commissioner Baroudi mentioned that an interagency meeting was held between AC Transit and City Council about pedestrian safety along International Blvd. There are new guidelines about transit boarding islands, which can be designed better for people with disabilities. There were presentations from DOT about 7th St., Broadway, and MLK designs. Traffic calming projects are on the council agenda for December 19.

Election Of Officers

- Mr. Nguyen called for nominations. Acting Chair Eberhardt nominated Commissioner Baroudi for chair. He accepted. The vote was 6-0 in favor. For vice chair, Acting Chair Eberhardt nominated Commissioner Bartu. He accepted. Acting Vice Chair Smith nominated Commissioners Bartu and St. Julian as co-vice chairs. Commissioner St. Julian declined. The vote on Bartu's nomination was 6-0 in favor.

2024 Meeting Calendar

- A draft calendar was circulated. January and February 2024 are special meetings due to holidays. January and April 2024 meetings have been moved to Hearing Room 2. Commissioner Baroudi moved to accept the calendar. Acting Vice Chair Smith seconded. The vote was 6-0 to accept the calendar.

Ad Hoc Committee to Explore Hybrid Meetings

- Acting Vice Chair Smith stated that he had been doing advocacy around hybrid meetings. In-person meetings have been required for almost a year. He had been working with Commissioner O'Malley, who resigned. A draft letter to send to governor, state senate, and city officials has been prepared. The committee will need to finish drafting the letter and send it out. Commissioner Baroudi moved to create the committee. Acting Chair Eberhardt seconded. The vote was 6-0. The committee was created.

Form 700 Training

- Britney Davis from the City Clerk's office gave her presentation. She was joined by City Clerk Asha Reed for Q&A.
- Acting Chair Eberhardt asked what the annual statement was. Ms. Reed explained.
- Commissioner St. Julian asked if she had to refile. Ms. Reed was not sure.
- Commissioner Baroudi asked about amendments. Ms. Reed explained that they were for errors.
- Commissioner St. Julian asked about trusts. Ms. Davis explained that trusts were covered under Schedule A-2.
- Acting Chair Eberhardt emailed the Public Ethics Commission, who said that it was only due every two years. In the past, she got a message from the Public Ethics Commission to file. Ms. Reed explained that the PEC is not the filing agency, and that the annual filing is due in April.
- Commissioner Lynne asked about taking the Form 700 class twice. Ms. Davis said no.
- Commissioner St. Julian asked about redoing a trust. Ms. Reed replied that the clerk's office is not allowed to give advice, and that a new trust would be filed the following year.

Strategic Planning

- Mr. Nguyen gave the presentation.
- Commissioner Bartu asked about CARE courts. Acting Vice Chair Smith replied that that was why we had Goal 5, Civil Liberties.
- Commissioner Lynne said that “request information from city administrator” seems vague. She asked if we had clean air centers for people with disabilities, and if there were shelters being built for environmental disaster. If so, are they accessible? In new construction, what’s being done to promote air quality?
- Acting Vice Chair Smith mentioned a report on who within the city has completed training on emergency respite centers.
- Acting Vice Chair Smith: What about funding for ADA Division? Anh: Some resources have been allocated, but we still need funding for auxiliary aids and services.
- Commissioner Baroudi asked if Mr. Nguyen was comfortable with staffing levels, and what would he like to see happen that we don’t have funding for ADA Division. Mr. Nguyen replied that could be covered in a future presentation.
- Commissioner Baroudi declared that he is interested in traffic safety. DOT is a stakeholder in terms of building design, as are the public works and public safety committees on council. We should continue asking for presentations from the city when street redesigns are happening, and improve how we consider pedestrians, paratransit, etc. People with disabilities’ views should be considered.
- Acting Vice Chair Smith noted that we did get an update on the ADA rent control case, but we should continue to consult with the city attorney regarding a settlement and their overall stance on the case.
- Commissioner Baroudi asked if goals 1 and 5 could be combined.
- Commissioner Bartu volunteered for goal areas 1 and 5, and maybe 4.

- Member of the public Angel Lin mentioned that she has worked in accessibility in higher ed for 4 years, and asked how these 5 priorities were made. Mr. Nguyen replied that this was led by Andrea Mariano over a series of monthly MCPD meetings. Due to quorum issues, MCPD could not approve the draft plan. Some steps have been taken, including the elevator ordinance and the Smith case. There has been both commissioner and community input.
- Commissioner Lynne told Ms. Lin that MCPD could use her as a commissioner.

Staff Updates and Announcements

- Mr. Romoser read the staff announcements.

Acting Chair Eberhardt called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Commissioner Lynne, seconded by Commissioner Baroudi, and approved 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05.