

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AND AGING SERVICES
(DAS) COMMISSION

MINUTES JANUARY 10, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME/ President Spears

President Janet Y. Spears called our hybrid meeting to order in City Hall room 400 and virtually and stated that the DAS Commission acknowledged they are using the unceded homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples of the San Francisco Peninsula.

The (DAS) Commission Secretary called the roll:

Present: Commissioners Sascha Bittner, Wanda Jung, , Nelson Lum, and President Martha Knutzen, Janet Y. Spears, Linda Parker Pennington

Not Present: Barbara Sklar

DAS Executive Director Kelly Dearman was present.

Communications:

Commission Secretary Ravi Durbeej provided instructions for any members of the public that would like to submit a public comment to the DAS Commission.

Approval of Minutes:

No public comment.

A motion to approve the October 4, 2023 Commission Meeting Minutes from Commissioner Bittner.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes:

No public comment.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT/ Kelly Dearman

Executive Director Dearman thanked everyone and wanted to thank Anni Chung and Self Help for the Elderly for the success of APEC and Tiffany Kearney for helping to deliver food in the inaccessible zones.

Yesterday DAS hosted the Korean Delegation who traveled to find out IHSS is run and all areas of DAS. And the SF Police Chief acknowledged all the work that has been done for all the veterans in the police force.

We've been working hard for the new conservative laws that have been increased to handle substance abuse programs. Adithi Vellore in planning and Jill Nielsen has worked tirelessly for DAS to be prepared for this change.

Commissioner Bittner asked to expand further on the new Conservator Laws on grave disability and Director Dearman expounded that this law will now include severe substance abuse programs for conservatorship. These persons will have already had to have been 5150'ed and cannot care for themselves.

Jill Nielsen added that after Jan 1st the definition was determined to add severe substance abuse disorder.

Commissioner Pennington added that she was happy to see the Korean delegation acknowledge the work DAS has done in SF.

DAS EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH NOVEMBER 2023

- Director Dearman and the DAS Commission gave thanks and praised Alma Jones for her hard work and dedication as an IHSS Supervisor. Her ability to work with such ease and comfort to all is amazing.
- Alma thanked the commission, IHSS director, and everyone in her department. Alma state that as an African American woman with a disability she represents the people she works for and cannot be more happy for all the support she received throughout the years. And thanked Shannon Morgan for all her support and Sandy for the help.
- President Spears and the DAS Commission thanked and congratulated Alma and congratulated her for speaking on all the people who have helped her!

DAS EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH DECEMBER 2023

- Deputy Director Dearman and the DAS Commission gave thanks and praised Ricardo Corona for his hard work and dedication as an Eligibility Work Supervisor at DAS' Medi-Cal and CalFresh units.

- President Spears thanked and congratulated Ricardo.
- Ricardo thanked everyone in her department and gave her so much support through all the years and President Spears thanked her as well for her commitment and support to DAS.

DAS EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH JANUARY 2024

- Deputy Director Kauffman and the DAS Commission gave thanks and praised Tiffany Kearney for her hard work and dedication as the DAS Lead Nutritionist and Program Analyst. Tiffany's hard work during the APEC conference to make sure everyone was served.
- Tiffany thanked everyone in her department and gave her so much support through all the years and thanked all of the staff at DAS that have helped so much throughout the years and the community providers.
- President Spears and the commission thanked and congratulated Tiffany for all of her hard work and dedication and was moved by all the work she's committed to the city.

ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT/Diane Lawrence

President Lawrence thanked the commission and spoke on some changes coming to the Council in 2024. They are focusing on expediting the meeting and are happy to announce that they will be adding more members to the council via both BOS and commission appointees.

Commissioner Jung thanked her for the excellent work and the 2024 calendar that gave the commission the plans for the upcoming year and this was seconded by President Spears.

CASE REPORT/ Dan Gallagher

CASE Report presented by Dan Gallagher where he gave an overview of the work CASE has done since October 2023. Work with non-profits with older skilled community members that can still work, and CASE had their December holiday party which was well attended. In January CASE held a meeting for health care professionals that work with the elderly community and the MediCal expansion.

Recently the worker provider working group was afforded a \$6.1 million dollar fund was given throughout the community.

Item 11 is GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT.

No public comment

Item 12 OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

Item 13 NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration regarding the DAS proposed budget for FY24-25 and FY25-26. (Presented by DAS Executive Director Kelly Dearman and HSA Deputy Director of Finance & Administration Dan Kaplan) INFORMATIONAL ONLY

- Deputy Director Kaplan let us know that this, the first of the 2 budget presentations of the year, and this one will focus on the lay of the DAS land where we will look at programs, etc. After the 2nd presentation the budget is then forwarded to the Board of Supervisors and then by May/ June to the Mayor's Office for approval. With the upcoming budget deficit we are looking to address this deficit now instead of facing a dramatic cut in the following budget cycles. This budget will try and focus on areas that are overspending and new programs and new demands on resources.
- Kaplan gave a description of how the budget looks today and then the overview of the financial status of the city.
- DAS receives infrastructural support from HSA that is not included in this DAS Budget, the original DAS budget asked for \$489.5 million for its programs.
- DAS' two biggest programs are IHSS and OCP
- Gave a detailed assessment of where DAS receives funding such as general fund, federal aid, state aid, and other funds throughout the city. (ex-Community Living Fund, and Dignity Fund, etc.)
- FY23-24 DAS detailed budget by category: Aid Payments account for 65%, CBO Grants account for 20%, staff salaries and fringe benefits account for 14%
- The Mayor's FY24-25 Budget Projections show a \$799 M budget deficit over next 2 fiscal years.
- Reductions to DAS programs will have to be made and the General Fund will have to be reduced by 10% which is approximately \$6.48 M in cuts.
- Director Dearman spoke on how despite the budget cuts the need is still there and the number of DAS caseloads still rises.
 - DAS in IHSS there still are caregiver shortages and the Public Conservator's office will need more resources because of the new SB 43 bill.
 - Office of Community Partnerships (OCP) will continue to focus on the Disability Community Center, in person service programs, state funding for nutrition and technology.
 - The Benefits and Resource Hub is preparing for SB 43 referrals, CalSAWS transition, and Veteran's Services

- Presenter Kaplan gave a timeline of the budget process coming up this year.

Vice President Lum asked about how the city is looking to balance this shortfall for this deficit and presenter Kaplan said they will look very closely at the Governor's budget and see if there is money for DAS programs.

Commissioner Pennington stated that the long-term projections are alarming and asked if the services needed are due to Covid and can you project if these new cases will still rise? Presenter Dearman replied that there is no way at the moment to project those numbers. Presenter Kaplan said that IHSS grows approximately 4% every year.

Commissioner Knutzen asked if we will see where the cuts will be made at next month's presentation and presenter Kaplan replied yes. Also asked about resources to the HUB and presenter Dearman replied that they will continue to make technological improvements.

Deputy Director Kauffman added that the HUB will still improve through community programs etc.

Commissioner Jung asked about the 10-year capital plan and presenter Kaplan responded that this plan is about the real estate that the city owns and repair and maintenance for all the properties throughout the city. Commissioner Jung thanked both presenter Kaplan and Dearman for all their hard work for this presentation and their creativity for somehow trying to balance this budget.

President Spears asked about the shortfall in the State Budget and the impact of that shortfall and presenter Kaplan said that is from the Realignment portion of the state budget which can come from state sales tax. We are currently not fully aware of that budget as of yet.

ACTION ITEMS REQUIRING A VOTE FROM THE COMMISSION

- B. Requesting authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with Eldergivers dba Art with Elders for the provision of Creative Arts for Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities during the period of January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026; in the amount of \$250,000, plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$275,000. (Presented by Michael Zaugg)

Presenter Zaugg is requesting authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with Eldergivers dba Art with Elders for the provision of Creative Arts for Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities during the period of January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026; in the amount of \$250,000, plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$275,000.

Commissioner Knutzen stated that she liked this project and this can really help seniors.

Commissioner Pennington hoped this funding would go beyond the pilot of this program and presenter Zaugg agreed.

Commissioner Lum asked if this could be worked in conjunction with the Academy of Art and presenter Zaugg said no that this program is focusing on the DAS population and the spaces will be dedicated to older adults and persons with disabilities which they preferred over spaces such as City College or Academy of Arts.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Pennington.

The motion was unanimously approved.

- C. Requesting authorization to modify the existing grant agreement with SteppingStone for the provision of LGBTQ+ Community Services Program Pilot; during the period from January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, in the additional amount of \$185,962 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$1,326,797. (Sarah Chan will present the item)

Presenter Chan is Requesting authorization to modify the existing grant agreement with SteppingStone for the provision of LGBTQ+ Community Services Program Pilot; during the period from January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, in the additional amount of \$185,962 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$1,326,797.

Commissioner Jung asked about the addition of the additional classes and this modification will pay for the new classes.

Commissioner Knutzen asked if these are new classes and presenter Chan let her know they are existing classes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Knutzen.

The motion was unanimously approved.

- D. Requesting authorization to modify the existing grant agreements with multiple providers to apply the Cost of Doing Business (CODB) increase; during the period of January 1,

2024 through June 30, 2025; in the additional amount of \$191,963 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$13,798,585. (Rocio Duenas will present the item)

Presenter Duenas is requesting authorization to modify the existing grant agreements with multiple providers to apply the Cost of Doing Business (CODB) increase; during the period of January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025; in the additional amount of \$191,963 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$13,798,585.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Jung.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Announcements

Commissioner Pennington relayed that there is a SF program from SFGOV.tv that is out now on Aging that has her and is out on YouTube as well now.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:44am by President Spears