



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Board of Supervisors



Date: February 23, 2017
Board Meeting Date: March 14, 2017
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Dave Pine
Supervisor Carole Groom

Subject: Appointments to the Commission on Disabilities

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation for appointments to the Commission on Disabilities, each for a term ending June 30, 2020:

- A) Matthew Cadigan Hearn; and
- B) Veronica Navarro; and
- C) Nathan Perkins; and
- D) Angela Piazza; and
- E) Lawrence Riegler; and
- F) Hannah Whiteside; and
- G) Shuo Zhang.

BACKGROUND:

The Commission on Disabilities serves as advisors to the Board of Supervisors, providing opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in, and influence the development of, public policy that promotes the full integration of people with disabilities in their communities. The Commission is looking for people who are dedicated and committed to improving the quality of life for people with disabilities through San Mateo County.

DISCUSSION:

Matthew Cadigan Hearn grew up with the challenges of learning disabilities and is active in peer counseling through Caminar. He hopes to help people with disabilities to be able to self-actualize.

Veronica “Vee” Navarro has a passion for inclusive education and has a degree from California State East Bay with a minor in Special Education. Her mother was a member of the Commission years ago.

Nathan Perkins works as an Adaptive P.E. teacher at Foothill/De Anza Community College District. He hopes that his involvement with the Commission will encourage individuals with physical disabilities to partake more in the overall development of the health and wellness.

Angela Piazza has strong customer service skills that she has used in multiple jobs and is active in her church and community. She would like to see SMC more accessible for children with special needs.

Lawrence M. Riegler has strong business skills, raised 3 children and is now starting a new phase of his life. He was on the CoD previously but had to drop it as his calendar was too full.

Hannah Whiteside possesses very strong business skills and has lived with family members who have disabilities. She also works as a Volunteer Pet Partner.

Shuo Zhang has worked in scientific research for 10 years and has lived with and cared for family members with disabilities.

These appointments contribute to the 2025 Shared Vision statement of a Collaborative Community. Our diverse population works well together to build strong communities, effective government and a prosperous economy, civic engagement – including voting, public service, charitable giving, volunteerism, and participation in public discussions of important issues – is uniformly high among the diverse population of San Mateo County.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.