City of Cambridge

Commission for Persons with Disabilities

51 Inman Street · Cambridge, MA · 02139-1732 617-349-4692 voice · 617-492-0235 TTY · 617-349-4766 fax



Elizabeth Dean-Clower *Chair*

JoAnn Haas Secretary

Miriam Cooper Sandy Durmaskin Eileen Keegan Bongiorno Alissa Land Bet MacArthur Naomi Pinson Kathy Watkins Dave Wood

Michael Muehe Executive Director/ ADA Coordinator

Kate Thurman
Project Coordinator

Joanna Berton Martinez Pro Bono Associate The next meeting of the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities will be held in the 2nd Floor Conference Room at 51 Inman Street on Thursday, October 11 at 5:30 p.m.

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ARRIVE BY 5:30 PM AGENDA

Please turn OFF your cell phones <u>before</u> the meeting begins. Thank you. NOTE: CCPD meetings are audio recorded for the purpose of taking minutes.

1.	Introductions	2 min.	
2.	Approval of Minutes for September 13	2 min.	
3.	Announcements	3 min.	CCPD staff / board
4.	Update on Service Animal PSA	10 min.	Joanna Berton Martinez
5.	Public Works Update	10 min.	Kathy Watkins
6.	Chair's Report Planning of October Employment Event	15 min.	Elizabeth Dean-Clower
7.	Police Community Liaison Update	5 min.	Chris Burke
8.	Update on Sidewalk Obstruction Issues	10 min.	JoAnn Haas
9.	Disability Reframed Film Series October 27 Screening of Life.Support.Music.	10 min.	Bet MacArthur
10.	Executive Director's Report	10 min.	Michael Muehe
11.	Project Coordinator's Report	5 min.	Kate Thurman
12.	Public Input	3 min.	general public
13.	Old Business	3 min.	
14.	New Business	2 min.	

This is a scent-free meeting. In consideration of individuals with environmental illness and/or multiple chemical sensitivity, please refrain from wearing perfume, after-shave or any other scented products to our meetings. Thank you for your consideration.

The City of Cambridge, Commission for Persons with Disabilities, does not discriminate on the basis of disability. The Commission for Persons with Disabilities will provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon request.



Accepted 11/8/12

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)

Minutes for Thursday, October 11, 2012 51 Inman Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Cambridge, MA 02139

Meeting was called to order at 5:39pm

Present:

Members: Elizabeth Dean-Clower, Sandy Durmaskin, JoAnn Haas, Eileen Keegan Bongiorno, Alissa Land, Bet MacArthur, Naomi Pinson, Kathy Watkins and Dave Wood.

Alternates: Don Summerfield

Staff: Michael Muehe and Kate Thurman

Absent: Miriam Cooper

Guests: Mina Boubakkar, Cambridge resident; Superintendent Chris Burke, Cambridge Police

Department; and Joanna Berton Martinez, pro bono associate.

Documents Used:

• Agenda for October 11, 2012

- Minutes from September 13, 2012 CCPD Meeting
- Service Animal PSA (online at www.cambridgema.gov/ccpd)
- Flyer for October Disability Employment Awareness Month Event
- DRAFT flyer for *Life.Support.Music.* film screening on October 27, 2012
- ABX 2012 Exhibit Hall/Universal Design: Accessibility Exhibit (www.abexpo.com)

Minutes: A motion to approve the September 13, 2012 minutes was seconded and passed.

Update on Service Animal PSA: Joanna Berton Martinez reported completing the first service animal PSA, which was played for the Commission. Members expressed several ideas for places to screen the PSA, including:

- Business Association Meetings
- License Commission trainings for restaurants
- Disability Reframed Film Screenings

Public Works Update: Kathy Watkins reported on on-going large projects and miscellaneous sidewalk work. She said that residents on Broadway between Prospect and Portland Street have been very supportive of concrete sidewalks with brick edging.

See <www.cambridgema.gov/TheWorks/departments/engnr/fiveyearplan.aspx> for details.

Chair's Report: Elizabeth Dean-Clower reminded those in attendance that the October Disability Employment Awareness Month event will be held on Wednesday, October 17 from 5:30-8pm at Cambridge Main Library. It will include a panel of experts moderated by Oz Mondejar of Partners Continuing Care.

Police Community Liaison Update: Superintendent Chris Burke reported that the Police Department has a prescription drop off box in the lobby of the Police Station, where old or unwanted prescription

drugs can be dropped off anonymously 24 hours a day. There is also a mail-in option for prescription drug disposal.

He reported that he was in the process of coordinating a service animal training for City Departments in the community room of the Police Department, and that the service animal PSA will be shown.

Superintendent Burke said that the Police Commission Citizen Advisory Board was looking for ways to get out to the community about what the Police Department does and how, and that he requested participation from CCPD members. The Board also has representation from the GLBT and Human Rights Commissions.

Sidewalk Update: JoAnn Haas reported on the October 4 snow/ice sidewalk accessibility meeting and sent an e-mail to the Cambridge community representatives and City representatives describing in detail what was discussed at this meeting. She felt that it was a productive meeting attended by representatives from DPW, Green Street Initiatives, the Traffic, and Parking and Transportation Department (TP&T), the CCPD, Environmental and Transportation Planning (E&T), the Cambridge Pedestrian Committee and the Agassiz Neighborhood Council as well as the United States Post Office.

Disability Reframed: Bet MacArthur reported that the Boston CPD in conjunction with CCPD will be holding a screening of *Life.Support.Living* on Saturday, October 27 at the Kroc Center in Boston, near the Upham's Corner stop on the Fairfield Commuter Rail.

Executive Director's Report: Mr. Muche reported that the deadline for submissions to the next issue of AccessLetter is November 15.

He also reported that the annual convention that was formerly known as Build Boston has been renamed Architecture Boston Expo (ABX), which will be held November 14-16. Mr. Muehe has been involved with the development of an exhibit demonstrating examples of accessible design and almost but not quite accessible design. There will be wheelchairs for people to try out both designs. Admission to the exhibit hall is free for people who register by October 31. For more information, see <www.abexpo.com>. They are looking for volunteers to help with the Universal Design exhibit.

Project Coordinator's Report: Kate Thurman reported being training on the new CCPD website, allowing her to add and delete content. She posted a blurb about voter registration deadlines, with a link to the Election Commission.

She reported receiving an update from Vinfen on the grant CCPD provided to their Community Integration Project. While she has not yet received a detailed report the project's coordinator emailed to say that the grant has done amazing things for their clients, so much so that their Director of Service has renewed their memberships to the YMCA. Vinfen is having a Cambridge Somerville Community Celebration from 6-9pm on November 15 at the Somerville Armory and would love for somebody from CCPD to attend.

She said that Josh Foley in the Office on Workforce Development informed her of a disability job fair on Thursday, November 8 from 10am-1pm at MassChallenge, Inc, One Marina Park Drive, 14th Floor, Boston, MA 02210. Contact Karen McCormack, Job Developer at Perkins School for the Blind, at karen.mccormack@perkins.org or at 617-972-7381 for more information.

Old Business: Sandy Durmaskin reported holding a table with information on CCPD at the Green Streets Initiative Breakfasts on the last Friday of the month in celebration of Walk/Ride day. She asked other members to consider volunteering at future events.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Kate Thurman, Disability Project Coordinator