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 Nicole Horton 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, February 14 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 January 10	2 min.	
3.	Announcements	2 min.	CCPD staff / board
4.	Guest Speaker: Yelena Tsilker Mentoring Fellow, Cambridge Family & Childr	15 min. en's Services	
5.	Guest Speaker: Dan Fisher, M.D., Ph.D. Executive Director, National Empowerment Co.	15 min. enter	
6.	Chair's Report	5 min.	Elizabeth Dean-Clower
7.	Police Community Liaison Update Update on Enforcement of Bicycle Traffic Reg	10 min. ulations	Chris Burke
8.	Public Works Update	10 min.	Kathy Watkins
9.	Update on Sidewalk Obstruction Issues	10 min.	JoAnn Haas
10	. Disability Reframed Film Series	5 min.	Bet MacArthur
11	. Executive Director's Report	5 min.	Michael Muehe
12	. Project Coordinator's Report	3 min.	Kate Thurman
13	. Public Input	2 min.	general public
14	. Old Business	2 min.	
15	. 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 3/14/2013

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)

Minutes for Thursday, February 14, 2013 51 Inman Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Cambridge, MA 02139

Meeting was called to order at 5:39pm

Present:

Members: Miriam Cooper, Elizabeth Dean-Clower, Sandy Durmaskin, Alissa Land, JoAnn Haas, Nicole Horton-Stimpson, Bet MacArthur, and Naomi Pinson, and Kathy Watkins.

Alternate: Don Summerfield

Staff: Michael Muehe and Kate Thurman

Absent: Dave Wood

Guests: Daniel Fisher, National Empowerment Center; Susan Manning, Cambridge Resident; and Yelena

Tsilker, Cambridge Family and Children's Services

Documents Used:

• Agenda for February 14, 2013 CCPD Meeting

- Minutes from January 10, 2013 CCPD Meeting
- Benda Bilili! Flyer
- Healthcare Reform Proposal Facts
- Heads Up Mentor Program Brochure
- DPW brochure Working Together: We can keep sidewalks free from snow and ice
- DPW Notice of Violation for Snow & Ice Citation

Minutes: A motion approve the January 10, 2013 minutes was seconded and passed.

Public Works Update: Kathy Watkins said that Cambridge received 27 inches of snow during the recent blizzard. DPW has received about 2500 calls requesting snow clearing or plowing and 600 complaints regarding unshoveled sidewalks. At the time of the meeting, DPW had completed 500 inspections of those 600 complaints. Ms. Watkins reported that a lot of progress was made with clearing snow from both bus stops and corners of high priority areas, but that this is an on-going effort.

Michael Muehe said that the MBTA is sending out teams to clear priority bus stops on key routes and that they are prioritizing areas where they have received complaints from people with disabilities.

Sidewalk Update: JoAnn Haas said that she plans to find out where elderly housing is located in the City and to see if those areas are on the City's priority list for clearing snow and ice from curb cuts and crosswalks for next winter.

Bet MacArthur reported making up flyers for her neighborhood reminding people of the snow ordinance, which she passed out on the day of the snow storm. She said that everybody had complied within a day and a half.

Guest Speaker: Yelena Tsilker, Mentoring Fellow at Cambridge Family and Children's Services (CFCS) reported on the Heads Up Mentor Program, which is for kids 8-22 years old who have a family member with a mental illness. The program matches the youth with adult mentors and they meet for 2-3 hours a week for at least a year, talking and doing recreational activities. CFCS provides training for mentors. While the program

prioritizes serving Cambridge and Somerville youth, it is open to youth from other areas within Greater Boston.

Guest Speaker: Daniel Fisher, MD, Ph.D., Executive Director of the National Empowerment Center, reported on Dual Eligibles. People who are eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare are considered to be Dual Eligible. Dr. Fisher said that the state feels there has been too much money spent by this group, most of whom have disabilities, on healthcare. He said that about 60% of Massachusetts Dual Eligibles have significant mental health issues. The Dual Demonstration healthcare reform program has named six Integrated Care Organizations (ICOs) in MA, and all Dual Eligibles must choose one in which to enroll. Dr. Fisher said that the National Empowerment Center is trying to have as much oversight as possible, and that there is an Implementation Team consisting of 21 individuals, who will monitor healthcare compliance with the ADA, and who will promote accountability and transparency.

Dr. Fisher reported that MA has received the country's first approval for this Dual Demonstration, so it is important that it go well since it will be setting an example for the rest of the country.

He stated that enrollment in the program for Dual Eligibles begins July 1 and that people will be assigned to an ICO if they do not sign up by the fall.

Chair's Report: Elizabeth Dean-Clower reported that CCPD will have two member openings this spring and asked those in attendance to spread the word. She stated that the application deadline is March 28. In addition, there will be elections for officers in May.

Police Community Liaison Update: Elizabeth Dean-Clower reported for Superintendent Chris Burke, who emailed her to say that he is in the process of pulling more detailed traffic data. He also reported that a high visibility traffic operation at the Mass Avenue and Rindge Avenue intersection is planned for the spring to enforce bicycle regulations.

Disability Reframed: Bet MacArthur reported that the next film, *Benda Bilili!*, will be screened at the Salvation Army Kroc Center in Dorchester on March 2, 2013 at 2pm. She said that she is pulling together a new support committee for film series, hoping to recruit 2 board members from CCPD and 2 from the Boston CPD, along with staff from each and that the hope is to meet the first Monday morning of each month at 11am.

Executive Director's Report: Michael Muehe reported that the deadline for the next AccessLetter is Friday, March 15 for articles and calendar items.

He reported that SCM Door to Door Transportation, which has been collaborating with CCPD on the Cambridge in Motion initiative, has hired a travel trainer and will be offering individualized travel training to persons with disabilities in greater Boston on how to navigate buses and the T.

Mr. Muehe also said that the Executive Office of Health and Human Services has filed a grant application to fund a durable medical equipment (DME) re-use project, which would recycle DME donated by people who no longer need it and get it to somebody in need.

He reported being contacted by Senator Pat Jehlen's office regarding visitability. Senator Jehlen has filed a study bill on this topic, which, if passed, would fund a study of feasibility, scope and practicability of having a state law requiring newly constructed single and two-family homes to be minimally accessible.

Project Coordinator's Report: Kate Thurman reported that DHSP has been posting CCPD items, including the old snow PSA onto the DHSP Facebook page. She asked that members with Facebook pages "like" those posts in order to increase visibility.

She also reported that the Women's Commission quarterly discussion group, Women and Words! will be meeting on Thursday, March 7, 2013 from 7-8:30pm at the Citywide Senior Center to discuss Healthy Aging in Cambridge: Expanding Housing Options for Women. Ellen Kokinda, Community Development Department will report on findings and recommendations of the Silver Ribbon Commission's Initiative, Creating a Vision: Cambridge as an Aging Friendly Community, followed by a discussion on exploring housing and lifestyle options as Cantabrigians age.

Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Kate Thurman, Disability Project Coordinator