

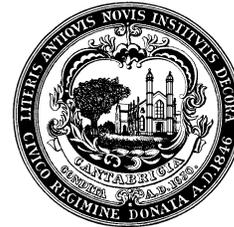
City of Cambridge

Commission for Persons with Disabilities

51 Inman Street · Cambridge, MA · 02139-1732

617-349-4692 voice · 617-492-0235 TTY · 617-349-4766 fax

www.cambridgema.gov/ccpd · ccpd@cambridgema.gov



Miriam Cooper
Chair

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 10 at 5:30 p.m.

Holly Aldrich
Elizabeth Dean-Clower
Sandy Durmaskin
Kara Falise
Avner Fink
JoAnn Haas
Nicole Horton-Stimpson
Alissa Land
Bet MacArthur
Naomi Pinson

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ARRIVE BY 5:30 PM

AGENDA

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

Michael Muehe
*Executive Director/
ADA Coordinator*

Kate Thurman
Project Coordinator

Joanna Berton Martinez
Katie Ashwill
Oscar Anderson
Pro Bono Associates

- | | | |
|--|---------|--------------------|
| 1. Introductions | 2 min. | |
| 2. Approval of Minutes for September 19 | 2 min. | |
| 3. Announcements | 2 min. | CCPD staff / board |
| 4. Chair's Report | 20 min. | Miriam Cooper |
| 5. Police Community Liaison Update | 5 min. | Jack Albert |
| 6. Public Works Update | 10 min. | Kara Falise |
| 7. Update on Sidewalk Obstruction Issues | 5 min. | JoAnn Haas |
| 8. Disability Reframed Film Series | 5 min. | Bet MacArthur |
| 9. Executive Director's Report | 10 min. | Michael Muehe |
| 10. Project Coordinator's Report | 5 min. | Kate Thurman |
| 11. Public Input | 3 min. | general public |
| 12. Old Business | 2 min. | |
| 13. 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.



Approved 11/14/13

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)
Minutes for Thursday, October 10, 2013
51 Inman Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Cambridge, MA 02139

Meeting was called to order at 5:38pm

Present:

Members: Miriam Cooper, Elizabeth Dean-Clower, Sandy Durmaskin, Kara Falise, Avner Fink, JoAnn Haas, and Naomi Pinson.

Staff: Michael Muehe and Kate Thurman

Absent: Holly Aldrich, Nicole Horton-Stimpson, Alissa Land, and Bet MacArthur.

Guests: Deputy Superintendent Jack Albert, Cambridge Police Department.

Documents Used:

- Agenda for October 10, 2013 CCPD Meeting
- Minutes from September 19, 2013 CCPD Meeting
- Image of the universal symbol of access next to the new accessibility icon (www.accessibleicon.org)

Chair's Report: Miriam Cooper reported that California recently passed regulations for ride share operations, such as Uber. The regulations require smart phone apps for these operations to be accessible and they also require the companies to train drivers on accessibility issues. Massachusetts does not have any regulations for ride share companies. She encouraged individuals to report any experiences of accessibility issues or denial of service to CCPD and to the Cambridge Human Rights Commission.

Deputy Superintendent Jack Albert said that the Police Department is now requiring officers to document such incidents when police are called, even though they are unable to prosecute under federal law.

Police Community Liaison Update: Deputy Superintendent Jack Albert reported that the Police Department is working on updating its service animal policy. While there is a policy in place currently, it has recently been updated. He said that Police Commissioner Robert Haas will be promulgating the updated policy in November.

He also reported that the License Commission recently hired Larry Clark, a retired police sergeant, part-time to investigate taxi complaints.

Public Works Update: Kara Falise reported that DPW held their annual snow meeting, which was well attended. DPW reviews their snow clearance operations with neighborhood associations and business people at these annual meetings.

Ms. Falise said that DPW is still very busy with construction. The second phase of sewer separation at Huron Ave is underway. The Alewife Wetland was recently completed and will be used for treatment of storm water. The area contains boardwalks, a bike path and a small amphitheater gathering area.

She said that DPW has constructed 82 new accessible curb ramps throughout construction zones this year.

Sidewalk Update: JoAnn Haas said that the snow and ice meeting was very well attended. She said that some of the tree grates on DeWolfe Street are raised, causing accessibility problems.

Kara Falise reported that tree grates are a continuous battle for DPW. If they are maintained properly, they are very good for tree health, but if they are not installed correctly, one side settles and the other pops up. However, they can be part of an accessible path of travel when installed correctly.

Ms. Haas reported after significant snowfall events (i.e., when there is more than 6 inches of snow on the ground) that DPW clears 23 miles of sidewalks and curb ramps in the City, which is a significant increase over what DPW cleared in prior years.

Ms. Haas said that DPW will be emailing all abutters of on-street disability parking spaces located in residential areas to remind them not to shovel snow into those spaces.

Executive Director's Report: Michael Muehe reported that there is a senate bill, number 1869, An Act Relative to the Access Board. This bill would correct some deficiencies in the state Architectural Access Board (AAB) regulations. Currently, there are both state AAB regulations and federal ADA standards for accessible design, but there are differences between the two standards, which sometimes makes it difficult for architects to figure out which standards to use.

He said that CCPD's Disability Mentoring Day will be held on October 30. The Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission is recruiting mentees, who are active job seekers with disabilities, to be matched up with City employee mentors for a day. The day will include speakers addressing employment issues and what Cambridge has to offer in terms of job training and careers in City government.

Mr. Muehe said that he has been working with Joanna Berton Martinez to put together a mini grant proposal through the Arts Council, which would allow CCPD to do short programs at CCTV.

Project Coordinator's Report: Kate Thurman reported providing a training on service animals for City employees that was well attended and successful.

Public Service Announcement (PSA) Update: Sandy Durmaskin reported meeting with Joanna Berton Martinez, pro bono associate, Michael Muehe, Kate Thurman, Avner Fink and Alissa Land to discuss PSAs. She said that CCPD has created four PSAs so far, and that PSAs are 60-90 seconds in length, focused on one issue, with the goal of trying to change behavior.

CCPD members voted on their preferences for PSA topics a year ago, with the following results:

- Service Animals – 10 votes
- How to Request Reasonable Accommodations – 7 votes
- Disability Parking – 6 votes
- Accessible Recreation in Cambridge – 5 votes
- Curb Ramps – 4 votes
- Access and Renovations – 3 votes
- Keep Sidewalks Clear – 2 votes
- Job Interview questions Do's and Don'ts – 1 vote
- Healthcare Access Rights and Responsibilities – 1 vote
- How to report snow and ice obstructions – 0 votes

CCPD is currently exploring the idea of taping BeLive shows at CCTV. BeLive programs are 27 minutes long and are typically recorded live, but CCPD would need to pre-record so that captions could be added before the program is screened.

Topics mentioned for BeLive programs included:

- Service animals and taxicabs
- Something on "hidden" disabilities – It takes more than ramps!
- Reasonable Accommodations
- Showcasing Disability Reframed Community Film Series

The next PSA committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 18 from 6-7:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate Thurman, Disability Project Coordinator