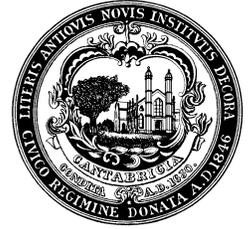


City of Cambridge

Commission for Persons with Disabilities

51 Inman Street · Cambridge, MA · 02139-1732

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



Miriam Cooper
Chair

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

Michael Muehe
*Executive Director/
ADA Coordinator*

Kate Thurman
Disability Project Coordinator

Joanna Berton Martinez
Seasonal Project Coordinator

Katie Ashwill
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, June 12, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

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.

- | | | |
|---|---------|--|
| 1. Introductions | 2 min. | |
| 2. Approval of Minutes for May 8 | 2 min. | |
| 3. Announcements | 2 min. | CCPD staff / board |
| 4. Chair's Report | 5 min. | Miriam Cooper |
| 5. Nominations and Elections for CCPD Chair and Secretary | 10 min. | ALL |
| 6. Employment Committee | 5 min. | Avner Fink |
| 7. Disability Reframed Film Series | 5 min. | Bet MacArthur |
| 8. DHSP Inclusion Update | 5 min. | Nicole Horton-Stimpson,
Manager of Inclusion Services |
| 9. Police Community Liaison Update | 5 min. | |
| 10. Public Works Update | 5 min. | Debbie Cheng |
| 11. Update: Sidewalk Obstruction Issues | 5 min. | JoAnn Haas |
| 12. Executive Director's Report | 5 min. | Michael Muehe |
| 13. Seasonal Project Coord. Report | 3 min. | Joanna Berton Martinez |
| 14. Public Input | 2 min. | general public |
| 15. Old Business | 1 min. | |
| 16. New Business | 1 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.



MINUTES – 6/12/2014

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)

Minutes for Thursday, June 12, 2014

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, Avner Fink, Bet MacArthur, Debbie Cheng (DPW sub for Kara Falise), Alissa Land, JoAnn Haas (via Speaker Phone), Nicole Horton-Stimpson

Staff: Michael Muehe, Joanna Berton Martinez (Seasonal)

Absent: Kate Thurman, Miriam Cooper, Kara Falise, Naomi Pinson, Jack Albert (Police Community Liaison)

Documents/Materials Used:

- Minutes from May 8, 2014
- Bike Safety Slogans for Police Department’s Electronic Message Boards

Minutes: The Minutes for May 8, 2014, were unanimously approved. Alissa made the motion to accept; Sandy seconded. Amendments: Under the section, Update: Sidewalk Obstruction Issues, Alissa asks for “resulting in” instead of “stemming from.” Under the section, Employment Committee, Sandy asks for the following to be deleted: “...because there wasn’t a lot to work with.” “Sandy Durmaskin and Elizabeth Dean-Clower both expressed interest in participating on the committee.” And to insert the two names, “Sandy Durmaskin and Elizabeth Dean-Clower” in the sentence so it reads, “...the committee—currently consisting of Michael Muehe and Mr. Fink, Sandy Durmaskin, and Elizabeth Dean-Clower...”

Announcements:

- Miriam Cooper will not be present at this evening’s meeting. It would have been her last as Chair.
- Elizabeth Dean-Clower will serve as Chair for the meeting instead.
- Don Summerfield attended a service for former CCPD Board Member, David Krebs, and expressed his gratitude for having him as a mentor.

Chair’s Report: CCPD officer elections will be held according to the bylaws.

- **Nominations for Chair:**
 - Elizabeth Dean-Clower continues to accept her nomination.
 - Avner gives thanks for the consideration but will not accept the nomination.

- Vote was unanimous; Elizabeth will be the Chair for CCPD Board.
- **Nominations for Secretary:**
 - Bet continues to accept her nomination.
 - Vote was unanimous; Bet will be the Secretary for CCPD Board.
- **Vote for the Board to take off the month of July, or August:**
 - Bet makes the motion to take off the month of August; Sandy seconds.
 - 1 abstain (Alissa)
 - 5 yeas
 - It's decided, no meeting in August.

Employment Committee: Avner Fink

The Employment Event will be held on Wednesday, October 29.

The committee met on Monday, June 9 and it was productive. Sandy and Elizabeth attended, as well as Jack Carroll from Spaulding Hospital Cambridge and Greg Ames from Mass Rehab Commission. The Employment Event might be a two-part event: disability mentoring day in the daytime, and a panel discussion in the evening. The evening panel could be held at Spaulding Cambridge, consisting of 3-4 people describing assistive technology in the workplace. This might include a demonstration of some of the technology presented. Involve MIT and/or Harvard? How about getting the word out to employers? This event is still in the planning stage, although ideas will have to firm up soon enough. How this event shapes up is still at a flexible point in the process.

Elizabeth makes note; this sounds like an ambitious event and this year in particular has been trying times for the CCPD Board. Sounds like a long day. Thoughts? Alissa asks; how would this year's event benefit or build up from last year's? Avner responds; the mentor/mentee activity was done last year so this idea wouldn't be starting from scratch. Michael adds; we did learn a lot from last year and this year we might be able to add an employer like Spaulding or Easter Seals. Elizabeth adds; transportation is a consideration. Sandy adds; volunteer stamina is an issue, too. Bet adds; this can be an opportunity for community organizing and maybe each CCPD member can recruit one or two other people to help out, too. Nicole adds; a lot of prep can occur before the day of.

Disability Reframed Film Series: Bet MacArthur

The screening on Saturday, May 31 in Boston (*Lars and the Real Girl*) was a success.

The next film will be held in Cambridge, *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*, with Alan Arkin and Sandra Locke (her first film!). It might be held on ADA Day, Saturday, July 26th at the Main Cambridge Library in the Lecture Hall. Or it might be better scheduled for the Saturday before on July 19, Bet has to confirm with the Boston team. Muehe reported viewing a rough cut of a 60-minute documentary, *La Casa Linda*, about a woman activist with a disability living in New Mexico. Fred Woods is a Cambridge filmmaker and former attorney who has been working on this project for six years. Bet said she would look into the film's availability; it would still need to complete post-production; perhaps a suggestion for a film to screen at our film series or the Reel Abilities annual film festival in February 2015.

DHSP Inclusion Update: Nicole Horton-Stimpson, Manager of Inclusion Services
They have hired 27 staff to help this summer's program for part-time to full-time child care. Nicole's assistant will be leaving her position and she is accepting resumes. Open invitation to share feedback with Nicole, especially suggestions to make the program better.

Police Community Liaison Update: No report this evening from Jack Albert (absent from meeting) but Elizabeth facilitates a bit of discussion on bike safety: June is bike safety month; slogans have been crafted. JoAnn asks; are there venues to approach like Hub Bike Company or Harvard associations that promote cycling, and have a conversation with them about safety issues? Maybe in the Fall? Bet adds, can this effort be in collaboration with the Pedestrian Committee? Nicole adds, we can operate independently and use a conversation with the Bicycle Committee for example, as a chance to share ideas. Alissa adds, some cyclists don't know they need a front + back light, for example, and this can be a slogan, "Sun down, use a front and back light". JoAnn adds, "Smart Cycling" can be a slogan.

Public Works Update: Debbie Cheng
The Five Year Plan has been finalized and is posted on the web site. Our longtime colleague and former CCPD Member Kathy Watkins has been named by DPW as *the* City Engineer! Send sidewalk/curb ramp locations that need fixing to Debbie or Michael. Michael requests to email locations to <ccpd@cambridgema.gov> so the office can get a copy and not just him. JoAnn will follow-up with an exact location of a pothole that needs fixing.

Update: Sidewalk Obstruction Issues: JoAnn Haas
Attended the City Council meeting on Monday, June 9 and there was a proposal to have a massive vehicle to remove snow from sidewalks (\$75,000). She had to leave the meeting before the vote but it sounded like there was support for this purchase.

Executive Director's Report: Michael Muehe

- Thank you for helping out with RiverFest. It was a success, we added several more people who signed up on our mailing list, and thanks to Kate and Bet the CCPD table had a nice, shady spot.
- CCPD sent a blast recently to celebrate grant funding for the Storefront Improvement Program to be held at the first awarded business, Boston Bed Company, from 9-10am on Wednesday, June 18.
- The Architectural Access Board (AAB) will be having hearings on the Variances we discussed last meeting regarding three buildings at: 19-21 Wendell St, 1 Chauncy St., and 3 Chauncy St. The hearings are to be held at 1pm and 3pm on Monday, June 16 @ 1 Ashburton Place in Boston.
- Bet makes a motion that the board vote to support Michael's request that AAB variances be not granted without a hearing, particularly in cases where visitability is at issue and accessibly within units or apartments, is not. JoAnn seconds. In prose, the board is asking them not to do this without a hearing. The board votes unanimously in agreement

- CCPD was awarded \$50,000 to assist storefront and buildings to become more accessible. Alongside, a \$250,000 to assess city-owned buildings.

Seasonal Project Coordinator's Report: Joanna Berton Martinez

- I will be attending the National ADA Symposium in Denver Sun-Wed. I will take notes and can give a report at the CCPD meeting in July or October, and am open to share updates at coalitions and work groups any CCPD member is on if they are interested.
- Next PSA topic will be about bike safety! I think we can make two PSAs out of one smart video shoot. The messages will be, 1) Do not run a red light or stop sign, and 2) Be noticed, practice cyclist visibility (thank you for the idea Alissa). More ideas from the group: Don't wear ear buds on your bike! Don't tweet from your bike! Don't text and ride! No tailgating! Next steps: Joanna will outline script the PSAs, will try to shoot in July but might have to be early-August so there aren't too many activities surrounding ADA Day. She will email the Board when the production list is ready and members can have a chance to join, help, or refer talent to help the video project.

Old Business: No old business

New Business:

- Don says there is an ADA Celebration 11am-3pm on Friday, July 25th at Dunn State Park in Gardner, MA with great food and good music although it is not accessible on the T, it is pretty great.
- Alissa Land is resigning from the Board tomorrow (June 13) and gives thanks to everyone and Elizabeth thanks Alissa for her much appreciated service.
- There are now two (2) spots available on the Board. A member has to be a Cambridge resident. How about posting flyers where disabled persons live or go to encourage recruitment?

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM

Respectfully submitted by Joanna Berton Martinez