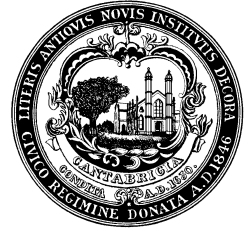


City of Cambridge

Commission for Persons with Disabilities

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Avril dePagter
Chair

Mary Devlin
Secretary

Loring Brinckerhoff
Jerry Friedman
Robert Goss
Stelios Gragoudas
Keisha Greaves
Valerie Hammond
Nicole Horton-Stimpson
Daniel Stubbs

Rachel Tanenhaus
Executive Director/
ADA Coordinator

Kate Thurman
Project Coordinator

**The next meeting of the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities
will be held online via Zoom on Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 5:30 PM**

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO JOIN BY 5:30 PM

AGENDA

Please keep your microphone muted when you are not speaking

- | | | |
|---|---------|--|
| 1. Introductions
<i>If needed, alternates named</i> | 2 min. | |
| 2. Announcements | 3 min. | CCPD staff / Board |
| 3. Approval of January 12 Minutes
<i>See page 4 of agenda packet</i> | 2 min. | CCPD Board |
| 4. Report on Mental Health Related
Initiatives & Training in the Police Dept. | 30 min. | Commissioner Elow &
Deputy Superintendent Boyle |
| 5. Public Works Update | 10 min. | Jerry Friedman |
| 6. Chair's Report
<i>Updates on CCPD Retreat Planning</i> | 15 min. | Avril dePagter |
| 7. Executive Director's Report | 10 min. | Rachel Tanenhaus |
| 8. Old Business | 5 min. | CCPD staff / Board |
| 9. New Business | 5 min. | CCPD staff / Board |
| 10. Public Input
<i>See pages 2&3 of this agenda packet for instructions on providing public comment</i> | 5 min. | general public |

CART/closed captioning will be provided for this meeting

Captions can be turned on within the Zoom platform. Additionally, you may stream CART in a separate URL at <http://bit.ly/CCPDCART>
(captions will not appear until the meeting has started)

The City of Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities, does not discriminate, including 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.

The next CCPD meeting will be held online on Thursday, March 9

Members of the public: See instructions on following pages on how to watch the CCPD meeting and provide public comment via Zoom

Instructions for Joining the February 9, 2023 CCPD Meeting as a Member of the Public

Join Online:

Registration is required in order to view the meeting or to participate in public comment.

Register online at

https://cambridgema.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_J_cWy8XbTiO64MhgWhmkMA

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. For more information regarding Zoom technology visit:

<https://www.cambridgema.gov/Departments/citycouncil/zoomonlinemeetinginstructions>

Join by Phone:

If you do not have access to the internet, you may also call into the meeting using a phone by dialing any of the following numbers and entering the Webinar ID (registration is not required). For higher quality, dial a number based on your current location:

+1 309 205 3325

+1 312 626 6799

+1 646 931 3860

+1 929 436 2866

+1 301 715 8592

+1 669 900 6833

+1 719 359 4580

+1 253 215 8782

+1 346 248 7799

+1 386 347 5053

+1 564 217 2000

+1 669 444 9171

When prompted, enter the webinar ID: **833 6739 0782**

NOTE: your microphone will be automatically muted until you are called on to speak during the public comment period of the meeting. See instructions on the following page for how to “raise your hand” in order to indicate that you would like to speak during the public comment period on the agenda.

Instructions for Providing Public Comment During CCPD Meetings via Zoom

Anyone wishing to address the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD) during the Public Comment section of the agenda may indicate that by "raising their hand" virtually within the Zoom platform. The host (CCPD staff) will call on members of the public to speak in the order in which their hands were raised. Please note that while you may raise your hand at any point during the meeting, you will not be called on to speak until the Public Comment period of the meeting.

To raise your hand:

- On a Mac or PC:
 - Click "raise hand" in the webinar control panel
 - Alternatively, you may use the keyboard shortcut to raise and lower your hand:
 - Windows: press "Alt+Y"
 - Mac: press "Option+Y"
 - When you are called on by the host to speak, you will be prompted to unmute your microphone (you must unmute yourself, as the host does not have the ability to unmute individuals).
 - After you have spoken or once your 3 minutes are up, your microphone will be muted by the host

- If you are calling in by phone:
 - Press *9 to raise and lower your hand
 - When you are called on to speak during the public comment period, you will need to press *6 to unmute yourself (press it again to mute yourself)
 - Note: your phone number will be visible to only the host of the meeting (CCPD staff). Because your name will not be displayed, we will call on you when it's your turn to comment by using the last four (4) numbers of your phone number to identify you. For example, "The person calling in from the number ending in ####, you may now provide public comment."
 - After you have spoken or once your 3 minutes are up, your microphone will be muted by the host

Once they have the floor, members of the public are asked to identify themselves, and each speaker is limited to not more than three (3) minutes. Although the public comments should, whenever possible, address one or more items on the agenda for that particular meeting, if time permits, the Chair may allow a speaker to comment on matters that may not directly address an item on the agenda, but do concern the Commission.

Thank you for your patience as we work together to make virtual meetings accessible for everyone!

Draft

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)

Minutes for Thursday, January 12, 2023 CCPD Meeting

Online via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm

Present:

Members: Mary Devlin (Secretary, filled in for Chair), Jerry Friedman, Robert Goss, Stelios Gragoudas, Keisha Greaves, Valerie Hammond, Nicole Horton-Stimpson, and Dan Stubbs

Absent: Avril dePagter and Loring Brinckerhoff

Staff: Rachel Tanenhaus and Kate Thurman

Commission Announcements

- CCPD's member retreat will be held on Saturday, April 1, 2023
- The Arts Council recently received a \$5,000 grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council to increase arts in the city which they will use to purchase portable assistive listening devices.
- Enrollment for the Department of Human Service Programs summer programming will be opening soon. To increase accessibility and equity the process has been revised, and there is now a single application for all programs. Nicole encouraged members to refer residents to her with any questions.

Minutes:

The December 8, 2022 minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Works Update:

- Jerry reported that with the lack of snow, DPW has saved money on the snow removal program so far this winter this year.
- Budget season has begun and DPW is requesting an increase in funding for two programs:
 - Miscellaneous sidewalk program focused on accessibility improvements.
 - A 15% increase (~900K) to their in-house program on accessibility-related sidewalk repairs.
- Current projects Update:
 - River St project has started
 - Willard St has started
 - Harvard Square Plaza is moving along
 - Inman Square project almost done
 - Gore Street finishing up
 - First Street connection to Cambridge Crossing happening, will open next year

Chair's Report

- Mary filled in for Avril, who was unable to attend.
- The Retreat Planning group will meet with Ora Grodsky, who will be facilitating the retreat, later in the month and will report back to the group at the February meeting.
- Mary reviewed the list of member interests from the October meeting:

- *Retreat*: We should start planning the retreat and not hold indefinitely until new members are appointed. We need to work on our by-laws (that were deferred until we held the retreat). Rachel will inquire about scheduling a retreat.
- *Visibility*: Increasing our visibility at community events will help residents know about us and what we can do to support them.
- *Communication*: It would be good for us to ramp up our communications to community residents about who we are and what we can do to improve the lives of people with disabilities.
- *Intra-commission relationships*: We should develop relationships and cross-pollination with other commissions, especially those that have overlapping missions. The office staff already have relationships but we could do more interaction between boards.
- *Community Forums*: Hosting events i.e., film series, speakers' bureaus, social service providers' gathering, Zoom book club,
- *Intersection of race and disability*: Become the point for DisCrit (short for "Disability Studies and Critical Race Theory") information for families.
- *Update the CCPD website*: Make the website more inclusive. Kate currently working on it to make our site more accessible.
- Nicole noted that we should try to answer the question of what the Commission's reach is into the community and reach out to other cities and towns to see what their Commissions' activities and roles are.
 - Mary suggested this be done prior to the retreat.
 - Rachel noted that many other Commissions follow the MA Office on Disability (MOD) template on disability commissions, but because CCPD was created prior to the statute enabling disability commissions, it works a bit differently. The link for the MOD template can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/commissions-on-disability/>
 - Kate informed members that [Massachusetts General Laws \(MGL\) Chapter 40, Section 8J](#) authorized cities and towns to form disability commissions. However, CCPD was established by City ordinance prior to the passage of the state law.

Executive Director's Report

- Rachel yielded some time for members to share their thoughts about the recent police-involved fatality. The following was brought up:
 - Members and staff acknowledged the gravity of the situation and its horribly tragic outcome.
 - There is a concern that this event might trigger mental health crises for others.
 - There was some surprise that this happened because there was an impression that Cambridge was doing more to support people with mental illness and their interactions with emergency services.
 - It was noted that there is training for City employees on interactions with people who present as needing additional support during their engagement with City departments.
 - Valerie shared information from NAMI-MA with the Police Department on how to work with people living with mental illness.
- Rachel discussed her findings on the history of the Commission
 - It was established in 1979, well before the passage of the ADA in 1990.
 - Rachel is the third director in the history of the Commission and has been in the position for five years.
 - She shared stories from news clippings over the years, but there is not a lot of documentation of the activities of the Commission prior to the early 1990's.
 - In a review of the by-laws and regulations, there is not a lot of distinction between the role of the Commission staff and the role of the Advisory Board members.
 - Rachel will pursue some research on the early days of the commission to share at the retreat.

Meeting adjourned at 6:34 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Devlin, Secretary