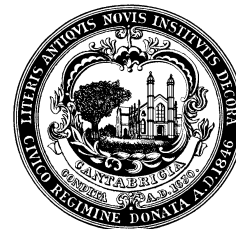


City of Cambridge

Commission for Persons with Disabilities

51 Inman Street · Cambridge, MA · 02139-1732

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Philibert Kongtcheu
Chair

Gary Dmytryk
Secretary

Loring Brinckerhoff
Avril de Pagter
Mary Devlin
Jerry Friedman
Stelios Gragoudas
Valerie Hammond
Nicole Horton-Stimpson
Jackie Jones
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, November 12, 2020 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

NOTE: CCPD meetings may be audio recorded for the purpose of taking minutes.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------|
| 1. Introductions
<i>If needed, alternates named</i> | 2 min. | |
| 2. Approval of October 8 Minutes | 2 min. | CCPD Board |
| 3. Announcements | 3 min. | CCPD staff / Board |
| 4. Chair's Report | 10 min. | Phil Kongtcheu |
| 5. Update on Projects &
the Inclusion Initiative | 20 min. | Nicole Horton-Stimpson |
| 6. Police Community Liaison Update
<i>CPD's Role in Public Health & Covid Response</i> | 20 min. | Dan Wagner |
| 7. Public Works Update | 10 min. | Jerry Friedman |
| 8. Executive Director's Report | 10 min. | Rachel Tanenhaus |
| 9. Public Input
<i>See following pages for instructions on providing public comment</i> | 3 min. | general public |
| 10. Old Business | 2 min. | CCPD Board |
| 11. New Business | 2 min. | CCPD Board |

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 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, December 10

Due to the pandemic, CCPD is not meeting in person for the foreseeable future.

Draft

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities

Minutes for Thursday, November 12, 2020

Online via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm

Present

Members: Loring Brinckerhoff, Mary Devlin, Gary Dmytryk, Jerry Friedman, Stelios Gragoudas, Nicole Horton-Simpson, Philibert Kongtcheu, and Daniel Stubbs

Absent: Avril de Pagter, Valerie Hammond, and Jackie Jones

Staff: Rachel Tanenhaus and Nancy Tauber

Guest Speaker: Dan Wagner, Cambridge Police Department

Documents/Materials Used:

- Agenda
- Minutes from the November 12, 2020 Meeting

Minutes:

A motion to accept the November 12 minutes was seconded and unanimously passed.

Chair's Report:

- Phil welcomed everyone to the meeting but had no specific items to cover

Update on the Inclusion Initiative:

Nicole Horton-Stimpson reported:

- Before COVID, the Inclusion Initiative had a long waitlist of children
- Challenging to hire staff
- Was able to raise the salary to help
- Then COVID hit
- Been contacting families to see what supports they needed – most need supports for the school day – not DHSP programs.
- Nicole's role has shifted over the last 9 months several times.
- DHSP Initiative in the works:
 - There are no in person programs happening
 - Currently there is a DHSP Fall in the Fields program – 2-5pm outside time. Hundreds of children have been participating. This is ending because of the short days. People love the program.
 - DHSP is working on virtual afterschool programming (probably both full and part time options).
 - DHSP is creating a family support program:
 - Provide supports for families and students.
 - In the process of developing criteria and figuring out what families need.
 - Please reach out to Nicole with any questions. Tell families to contact her.
 - Questions
 - Is there a website that has the info? Find It Cambridge
 - What's happening with DHSP Recreation Special Needs? Nicole will find out.
 - What else is the city doing to help people? Nicole will send information to Rachel/Kate.

Police Community Liaison Update:

- Deputy Superintendent Dan Wagner reported on the Police Department's role in public health during the pandemic:
 - Policing vs Law Enforcement
 - Law enforcement is a small part of the work we do. (3% for Cambridge)
 - History of policing
 - Cambridge
 - Early 2000s – added community outreach positions focused on vulnerable populations, clinical therapists, recovery coach, internships, etc.
 - Capacity to address complex problems people are dealing with
 - Handcuffing and arresting people does not help.
 - Robust case management program.
 - Adding more supports as time goes on.
 - COVID – There are lots of laws and regulations for public health purposes. Police are asked to enforce, which was very challenging considering what is going on with the police in this country. CPD focused on educating the community about COVID and handing out masks. Working with others to set up testing centers. CPS also partnered with the shelter at the War Memorial. The shelter is moving to the Transition Wellness Center – the old Spaulding Center has been renovated to meet this need.
 - Questions/Comments
 - This is a new way of policing.
 - CPD is ahead of the curve in policing.
 - Are there police fluent in sign language?
 - We have over 20 languages that we interpret
 - We have a teletype system when people call 911
 - Dan will find out about sign language.
 - Police Budget? It is hard to break out the budget.
 - How much is the budget allocated for the disabilities population – Can't think of anything specific. We try to meet the needs of the people.
 - Reach out to Dan anytime with questions or comments.

Public Works Update:

- Jerry reported that
 - Snow presentation will happen in December.
 - Construction moratorium has started for non-essential construction.
 - Fewer projects than in previous years – due to COVID.
 - Working on sidewalks – concrete deterioration of sidewalks.
 - Supported outdoor dining – providing barriers, ramps, leaf and snow clearing, etc.
 - Public showers located in Harvard Square parking lot on Church St.
 - Made sure city buildings are COVID safe - handwashing station, ventilations, signage, etc.
 - Large projects – River Street
 - Able to reach more people virtually – will continue to do that moving forward
 - Using CART
 - Street, sidewalk and landscaping projects – Jerry will send the map with information.
- Rachel – The maps need to be accessible. Colors on maps are difficult to read for some folks. There is a new sidewalk at 51 Inman St that is more accessible. DPW has responded to calls we get about outdoor spaces. Thank you DPW.

- Questions
 - Cambridge/Watertown Bike Trail under construction is a DCR project, but the City has a fair amount of involvement. It will be fully accessible. There have been delays because of draining issues. Should be ready in 2021.

Executive Director's Report:

- Rachel reported:
 - Rachel is in the office Monday and Thursday – except Commission meeting days.
 - Kate is working remotely.
 - Been meeting with people virtually – not much in person.
 - Involved with
 - River Street project
 - MIT Museum (incorporate universal design)
 - Participatory Budget – We talked to the city about the accessibility of some of the project proposals
 - City, Library and My Brother's Keeper – Help with liberation libraries (little free libraries focused on antiracism and racial equity). Should be available in alternative formats.
 - CHIP – Community Health Improvement Plan – Goal area: Community and Social Resilience
 - Ensure better technology for communication accessibility in Sullivan Chamber – work in progress and progress being made.
 - Getting calls from businesses who are trying to be more accessible. Kate is going on lots of virtual site visits.
 - Danehy Park Universal Design Playground design group will present at our meeting in January.
 - Questions
 - Can DCR come to talk about accessible recreation?
 - Since we are now meeting regularly, what do we want to be doing?
 - Rachel will look at previous notes to remind us what we had discussed.
 - Public Comment
 - Edwige Hercule commented: This is her first meeting and it was very informative. She is particularly interested in issues regarding:
 - Supports for youth
 - Police
 - Sidewalks
 - Restaurants

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Tauber