

Approved April 14, 2022

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities

Meeting Minutes February 10, 2022

Online via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm

Present:

Members: Phil Kongtcheu, Avril de Pagter, Dan Stubbs, Stelios Gragoudas, Gary Dmytryk, Nicole Horton-Stimpson, Jerry Friedman, Mary Devlin

Absent: Jackie Jones, Valerie Hammond, Loring Brinckerhoff

Staff: Rachel Tanenhaus, Gary Chan (Community Development Department), John Boyle (Police Department)

Presentation:

- Gary Chan gave a presentation on city parks and open space planning.
- See his presentation attached here.
- Any feedback can go to Gary at gchan@cambridgema.gov

Minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes for the January meeting was seconded and approved.

Public Works Update:

- Jerry discussed preparation for the next storm and noted there were no public meetings to report.
- The Department of Public Works (DPW) will do their annual update on the Five Year Street and Sidewalk Reconstruction Plans at the April meeting.

Police Update:

- Deputy Superintendent Boyle discussed recent activities of the Police Department in supporting people with disabilities including individual officers providing supplies and toys to residents.
- In response to a question about the police knowledge of residents needing additional support when being confronted by police, he said:
 - police are familiar with “frequent” callers
 - families or individuals can self-choose to be included in the data system so dispatchers have additional information about needs before responding to a call
 - officers are now able to get back into the youth centers to build relationships with kids and teenagers.

Executive Director's Report:

- Rachel informed the Commission that there is an active search for the next Cambridge City Manager
 - CCPD staff and board member Mary Devlin participated in the process to date.
 - Upcoming public forums are 2/14 for people with disabilities and a 2/16 Town Hall for all residents of Cambridge.
 - A question was posed to invite the search consultant to a CCPD meeting and Rachel will extend an invitation.
- Rachel discussed the capital budget of the Commission.
- Rachel reminded the board that the next CCPD election for Chair and Secretary will be in May with nominations in April.
- Also, Gary's term is up, so a call for applications for Board membership will be going out soon.
- Rachel announced the release of the "*Guide to Plain Language*" created by the Family Policy Council, and highlighted Kate's participation in the process.

Chair's Report:

Phil reminded Board members that he is looking for members to suggest people to do presentations on topics of interest to the Board. If anyone wants to do a presentation or knows of someone who can be a guest speaker, please let Phil know.

New/Old Business:

- Discussion about Meeting Expectations was deferred to the March meeting.
- There was agreement the development of the By-Laws needs a larger conversation and should be part of a future Board Retreat.

Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Submitted by Mary Devlin