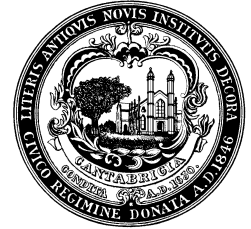


City of Cambridge

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

Approved 3/9/2023

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)

Minutes for Thursday, February 9, 2023 CCPD Meeting

Online via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm

Present:

Members: Loring Brinckerhoff, Avril dePagter (Chair), Jerry Friedman (DPW rep), Robert Goss, Keisha Greaves, Nicole Horton-Stimpson, and Dan Stubbs

Absent: Mary Devlin, Stelios Gragoudas, and Valerie Hammond

Staff: Rachel Tanenhaus and Kate Thurman

Guest speakers: Cambridge Police Department Commissioner Christine Elow and Deputy Superintendent John Boyle

Minutes:

The January 12, 2022 minutes were unanimously approved.

Report on Mental Health Related Initiatives & Training in the Police Department

- Commissioner Christine Elow & Deputy Superintendent John Boyle reported
- Due to the investigation by the District Attorney, details are not able to be spoken about regarding the death of Sayed Faisal
- The Cambridge Police Department (CPD) has started to post more detailed reports on social media related to mental health calls
- Trauma informed police training, clinical support unit with social workers, youth diversion program to keep them out of the criminal justice system
- 1995 elder crisis coordinator
- SafetyNet led by Dr. Jamie Barrett along with Cambridge Police Department Youth & Family Services Unit, Cambridge Health Alliance, Department of Human Services and the Cambridge Public Schools
- FSJ Unit Domestic Violence Unit – encompasses the Family Justice Group, Social Justice Unit and Clinical Support Unit.
- De-escalation Training
- Community Outreach Programs – work directly with the homeless population, homeless court set up in Central Square – instead of having to get all the way to the court in Medford, able to facilitate resources for them
- Officer Dean – De-escalation and Procedural Justice Study – treating people with respect and dignity, communicating in a transparent way led to improved relationships with the police
- Crisis response team from the Cambridge Health Alliance to help in the field regarding mental health
- Required Trainings – reform bill, POST commission, cultural competence, trauma informed policing – teaches to be empathic with a trauma informed approach

Additional information & resources were mentioned in response to questions:

- Crisis prevention/intervention - data regarding the clinical support unit (they will come back together with Dr. Barrett to talk more and report back out)
- CHA Mobile response team
- Cambridge Community Response Team

- HEART Program – community-led proactive public safety program that aims to address the immediate needs of people in conflict or crisis
- The Cambridge 911 center employs a social worker in the emergency call center to assist with mental health related calls
- 988 services – Suicide & Crisis Line
- Body cameras – council order moving forward, police department wants body cameras and the city seems to want them as well, but there is a process
- Non-lethal equipment – Cambridge police officers carry pepper spray and batons on her belt. They do not currently carry Tasers
- The CPD will be piloting a grant-funded program in which social workers will co-respond to certain emergency situations along with police
- Question regarding disability population – Crisis intervention, have this panel come to talk
- The CPD does not currently have any wheelchair accessible vehicles (WAV). In the event they need to transport a wheelchair user who is unable to transfer into police vehicles, the call Professional Ambulance. The possibility of getting a WAV for the department was discussed.
- Is any of the training done by advocates? Yes – Christine will report back and include the curriculum
- ADAPT - Authorized Databases and Police Technology
- 6th street Police station is accessible

Public Works Update:

- Rachel and Jerry are working on new urban design guidelines. A set of coherent guidelines that are intended for larger developments, street scape, sidewalks, etc. Focus on how people engage with space.
 - Wayfinding
 - An eye towards inclusion in what we want in our design guidelines
- Due to the mild winter, the City has so far been able to save money on snow removal and construction has been able to continue throughout the winter
- McGrath Highway, the state of the road is difficult to maneuver and is a safety concern

Chair's Report

- Avril reported on the CCPD member retreat:
 - It will be held in person on Saturday, April 1 from 1-5:00 PM
 - Members and staff are asked to test for Covid that morning and to wear a mask unless unable to due to a health condition or disability
 - It will be held at Dan's office in Boston, which is fully accessible and has several rooms that can be used for breakout groups
 - Kate will look into the possibility of providing transportation
 - Items that will be discussed include:
 - Commission roles vs. staff roles
 - Member contributions, community outreach, school relationships, board relationships
 - CART will be provided

Executive Director's Report

- Rachel reported that MassHealth members will be receiving eligibility paperwork that must be filled out and returned in order to continue their health coverage. Make sure that MassHealth has your most up to date contact info with any updated "life" information. This was put on hold during the pandemic, and is now resuming. Members who do not return their completed paperwork will lose their coverage.
- Other cities are reaching out to inquire about how Cambridge does things

- Rachel has been providing a lot of technical assistance to supervisors who are requesting support in responding to an increasing number of telework reasonable accommodation requests

Old Business

- None

New Business

- There was an article in the February 6th Boston Globe written by Henry Smith, who along with his pregnant wife, was given prenatal information that included the use of the “R” word. MGH websites were quickly updated to remove this outdated, offensive term

Meeting adjourned at 6:56PM

Respectfully submitted,
Nicole Horton-Stimpson