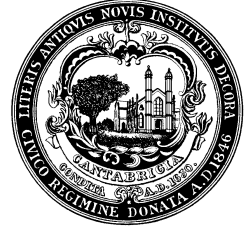


City of Cambridge

Commission for Persons with Disabilities

51 Inman Street · Cambridge, MA · 02139-1732

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Elizabeth Dean-Clower
Chair

Bet MacArthur
Secretary

Miriam Cooper
Sandy Durmaskin
Kara Falise
Avner Fink
JoAnn Haas
Nicole Horton-Stimpson
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, October 9, 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. Approve Minutes for June, July & September meetings | 5 min. | |
| 3. Announcements | 2 min. | CCPD staff / board |
| 4. Chair's Report
<i>Employment Event</i> | 15 min. | Elizabeth Dean-Clower |
| 5. Police Community Liaison Update | 5 min. | Jack Albert |
| 6. Disability Reframed Film Series | 5 min. | Bet MacArthur |
| 7. Public Works Update | 5 min. | Debbie Cheng |
| 8. Update: Sidewalk Obstruction Issues | 10 min. | JoAnn Haas |
| 9. Executive Director's Report | 5 min. | Michael Muehe |
| 10. Project Coordinator's Report | 5 min. | Kate Thurman |
| 11. Public Input | 2 min. | general public |
| 12. Old Business | 2 min. | |
| 13. New Business | 2 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.



Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities

Minutes for Thursday, October 9, 2014

51 Inman Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room, Cambridge, MA 02139

Meeting was called to order at 5:45pm

Present:

Members: Debbie Cheng, Elizabeth Dean-Clower, Sandy Durmaskin, JoAnn Haas, and Naomi Pinson

Alternate: Don Summerfield

Staff: Michael Muehe and Kate Thurman

Absent: Miriam Cooper, Avner Fink, Nicole Horton-Stimpson, and Bet MacArthur

Documents Used:

- Agenda for October 9, 2014 CCPD Meeting
- Minutes from September 11, 2014 CCPD Meeting
- Minutes from July 10, 2014 CCPD Meeting
- Minutes from June 12, 2014 CCPD Meeting

Minutes:

Motions to amend the minutes from June 12, July 10, and September 11 were seconded and passed. The minutes were accepted as amended.

Chair's Report: Elizabeth Dean-Clower reported that the employment event committee has been meeting regularly and that the event, *Expect. Employ. Empower. Assistive Technology in the Workplace*, will be held on October 29 at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital Cambridge.

The Chair said that a member of the Cambridge community will be attending the November CCPD meeting to discuss service animal issues. This will be an agenda item. Additionally, she said that Laura Brelsford of the MBTA has requested that CCPD devote some time in January or February to discussing elevator work that will be going on in the Central and Harvard Square T stations.

The Chair noted that CCPD has been having difficulty getting a quorum for meetings, which are currently scheduled for the second Thursday of the month. She requested input from the Board on the possibility of changing the day of the meeting and said that a poll would be conducted in which Board Members will have the opportunity to rank preferences on available meeting dates and times. CCPD staff will work on creating a list of evenings in the month on which the conference room is available.

Film Series Update: Michael Muehe reported that we will be working with ReelAbilities again this year, hosting a screening on February 24 at the Cambridge Main Library.

The City of Boston has been having difficulty with licensing issues, which they are trying to work out on their own. Until they work out this issue, we do not have any dates for Boston films, so we do not know when the next screening will be.

Public Works Update: Debbie Cheng reported that DPW hired a contractor to use a concrete shaver to bevel vertical displacement in sidewalks as a pilot program through Precision Sidewalks. Most of this work has been done on Hampshire Street between Amory and Elm Streets. The pilot program worked out really well and DPW is interested in continuing to work with Precision Sidewalks. However, funding may be a hurdle.

Update on Sidewalk Obstruction Issues: JoAnn Haas reported that the annual snow meeting was held on October 2, with representatives from DPW, Traffic, Parking & Transportation (TPT), the Water Dept., Post Office, neighborhood associations, TROMP and the Community Development Dept. (CDD). She will send out an email summarizing the meeting soon. She also noted that the Post Office will run the Best Shoveled Sidewalk contest again this year.

Executive Director's Report: Michael Muehe reported that every year for the past 10 years or more, the City's capital budget includes \$50,000 for capital improvements to address ADA issues in City facilities. This money has been used in the past to purchase assistive listening systems and automatic door openers, to update restrooms to make them compliant, and to hire an accessibility firm to do a web accessibility audit of City department websites, as well as for other projects. Additionally, the Storefront Improvement Program run by CDD gets between \$150,000 and \$250,000 per year for storefront improvements. 100 or more storefronts have been made accessible as part of this.

Mr. Muehe said that he is working with TPT on installing accessible pedestrian signals (APS). The project is going out to bid and it is expected that a contract will be awarded by the end of October.

Mr. Muehe reported that there is some money in this year's budget to do an assessment of city buildings for code issues. They will look at fire alarms, and the Electrical Department is replacing the high call boxes on city sidewalks with lower accessible pedestals.

Project Coordinator's Report: Kate Thurman said that, beginning in 2015, the AccessLetter will no longer be mailed to non-Cambridge residents, although anybody may join the email distribution list.

Old Business:

A ramp to make the Mayor's rostrum accessible is currently under construction. The Sullivan Chamber is undergoing major renovation, and beginning in November, televised and webstreamed City Council meetings will be closed captioned.

It was reported that funeral home visitors continue to park their cars in MBTA bus stops.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate Thurman, Disability Project Coordinator