

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  
Debbie Cheng  
Avner Fink  
JoAnn Haas  
Nicole Horton-Stimpson  
Naomi Pinson

Michael Muehe  
*Executive Director/  
ADA Coordinator*

Kate Thurman  
*Disability Project Coordinator*

Joanna Berton Martinez  
*Special Project Specialist*

Katie Ashwill  
*Pro Bono Associate*

**The next meeting of the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities will be held in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room at 51 Inman Street on Thursday, May 14, 2015 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 may be audio recorded for the purpose of taking minutes.**

- |  |         |                        |
|--|---------|------------------------|
| 1. Introductions   | 2 min.  |                        |
| 2. Approval of March 19 & April 9 Minutes  | 5 min.  |                        |
| 3. Announcements   | 2 min.  | CCPD staff / board     |
| 4. Chair's Report<br><i>Nominations/Elections Process<br/>Harvard Art Museum Accessibility</i> | 10 min. | Elizabeth Dean-Clower  |
| 5. Public Works Update<br><i>Five Year Plan</i>  | 20 min. | Kathy Watkins          |
| 6. Update: Sidewalk Obstruction Issues   | 5 min.  | JoAnn Haas             |
| 7. Update: Bicycle Safety PSA  | 5 min.  | Joanna Berton Martinez |
| 8. Police Community Liaison Update   | 5 min.  | Jack Albert            |
| 9. Disability Reframed Film Series   | 5 min.  | Bet MacArthur          |
| 10. Executive Director's Report<br><i>Riverfest (Saturday, June 6)</i>                         | 10 min. | Michael Muehe          |
| 11. Public Input   | 3 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.



Approved June 11, 2015

## **Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)**

Minutes for Thursday, May 14, 2015

51 Inman Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Cambridge, MA 02139

Meeting was called to order at 5:40PM

### Present

**Members:** Elizabeth Dean-Clower, Sandy Durmaskin (by phone), Avner Fink, Nicole Horton-Stimpson, Bet MacArthur, and Jim Wilcox for Debbie Cheng (DPW)

**Alternates:** Donald Summerfield

**Guests:** Juliet Blackette and Gary Dmytry

**Staff:** Michael Muehe and Joanna Berton Martinez

**Absent:** Miriam Cooper, JoAnn Haas, and Naomi Pinson

### **Documents/Materials Used:**

- Minutes from March 19, 2015
- Minutes from April 9, 2015
- RiverFest Volunteer Sign-up sheet for June 6, 2015

### **Vote for Remote Participation:**

Donald Summerfield made a motion to allow Sandy Durmaskin to participate via remote participation (phone) for the meeting. Bet MacArthur seconded it, and the motion was passed with five ayes.

### **Minutes:**

A motion to amend the March 19, 2015 minutes to add the following information was made and passed:

- List Michael Muehe as absent
- Sandy Durmaskin suggested that we find ways to engage applicants that are not selected to the Board at this time, as participants/volunteers in some way, so we do not lose their potential and develop future Board members. Naomi Pinson suggested compiling a list of activities CCPD activities that might apply. Nicole Horton-Stimpson mentioned “be a volunteer friend of CCPD.”

A motion to approve the March 19 minutes as amended was made and passed.

A motion to amend the April 9, 2015 minutes to add the following information was made and passed:

- The Chair expressed interest in looking to have guest speakers again in future meetings.
- Public Works correction: The 500k is funding a public bathroom in Central Square. A previously funded project will construct a public bathroom in Harvard Square.

- JoAnn Haas requested follow-up to officially post on the Traffic, Parking and Transportation website the revised ordinance regarding no bicycles permitted to be attached to Disability Parking sign poles.

A motion to approve the April 9 minutes as amended was made and passed.

**Reminder:** There will be a public celebration of the ADA's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the Boston Common on Wednesday, July 22.

#### **Chair's Report:**

Elizabeth Dean-Clover wants to follow-up with issues regarding accessibility at Harvard Art Museum at future CCPD meetings.

She also suggested moving the CCPD officer election to the June meeting. Bet MacArthur made a motion to move the election to June, Sandy Durmaskin seconded it and the motion was passed.

#### **Nominations for Chair, Secretary:**

Elizabeth Dean-Clover nominated Nicole Horton-Stimpson for CCPD Chair. Ms. Horton-Stimpson accepted the nomination.

Nicole Horton-Stimpson nominated Sandy Durmaskin for CCPD Secretary. Ms. Durmaskin respectfully declined the nomination.

Sandy Durmaskin nominated Avner Fink for CCPD Secretary. Mr. Fink accepted the nomination.

#### **Disability Reframed Film Series:**

Bet MacArthur reported that there was a film screening on May 13 hosted by the City of Boston Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities. The Disability Reframed Community Film Series is going to be on a hiatus the next 6-months.

#### **Public Works Update:**

Jim Wilcox from the Department of Public Works gave a presentation on DPW's Five Year Plan. Topics included: sidewalk and street reconstruction plan goals and objectives; each street in Cambridge being assessed every three years; improving curb ramps; repaving and restriping streets; the Miscellaneous Sidewalk Program; and making work zones accessible. [Editor's note: see <http://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/ourservices/engineering> for details on the Five Year Plan].

#### **Bicycle Safety PSA Update:**

Joanna Berton Martinez screened the newest public service announcement, *Don't Run Red* (55 seconds). Featuring Sandy Durmaskin's voice over and the CCPD Membership singing chorus, the video asks cyclists not to run red lights and to please stop at stop signs. Ms. Berton Martinez will send a link to CCPD to share. May is Bicycle Safety Month! Please give her a call if CCPD membership would like to produce a BeLive show showcasing disability rights and awareness any time this upcoming year.

Ms. Berton Martinez will send a copy of the six PSA compilation DVD to CCPD and Disability Reframed and will continue to post or enter these PSAs to increase screen time. She will also send CCPD a full credit list of volunteers for each PSA to include in CCPD's on-line posting and DSHP's web site video collection.

**Executive Director's Report:**

Michael Muehe reported the Cambridge RiverFest in Central Square will be held Saturday, June 6. CCPD is sharing a table with the Cambridge Human Rights Commission (CHRC) and a sign-up sheet to volunteer to staff the table that day was circulated at the meeting.

**Public Input:**

Juliet Blackette raised a question about conducting a survey or study to assess accessibility of businesses in Cambridge.

The meeting adjourned at 7:23PM

Respectfully submitted by Joanna Berton Martinez