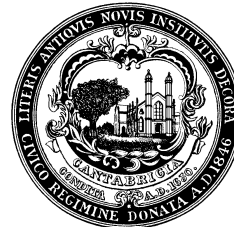


City of Cambridge

Commission for Persons with Disabilities

51 Inman Street · Cambridge, MA · 02139-1732

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Alicia Zeh-Dean

Chair

Valerie Hammond

Secretary

Gary Dmytryk

Jerry Friedman

Stelios Gragoudas

Nicole Horton-Stimpson

Philibert Kongtcheu

Luis Loya

Julie Miller

Rachel Tanenhaus

Executive Director/

ADA Coordinator

Kate Thurman

Project Coordinator

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, March 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ARRIVE BY 5:30 PM

AGENDA

Please turn OFF your cellphones before the meeting begins. Thank you.

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

- | | | |
|---|---------|--------------------|
| 1. Introductions | 2 min. | |
| <i>If needed, alternates named</i> | | |
| 2. Human Rights Commission Update | 30 min. | Nancy Schlacter, |
| <i>Ordinance Updates, Case Trends, etc.</i> | | Executive Director |
| 3. Approval of February 14 Minutes | 2 min. | CCPD Board |
| 4. Announcements | 2 min. | CCPD staff / Board |
| 5. Chair's Report | 10 min. | Alicia Zeh-Dean |
| 6. Public Works Update | 5 min. | Jerry Friedman |
| 7. Project Coordinator's Report | 10 min. | Kate Thurman |
| 8. Public Input | 5 min. | general public |
| 9. Old Business | 2 min. | CCPD Board |
| 10. New Business | 2 min. | CCPD Board |

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.

The next CCPD meeting will be held on Thursday, April 11, 2019

Approved 4/11/19

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)

Minutes for Thursday, March 14, 2019

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

Meeting was called to order at 5:pm

Present

Members: Gary Dmytryk (by phone), Jerry Friedman, Stelios Gragoudas, Valerie Hammond, Philibert Kongtcheu, and Alicia Zeh-Dean

Absent: Nicole Horton-Stimpson, Luis Loya, and Julie Miller

Staff: Kate Thurman

Guest Speaker: Nancy Schlacter, Cambridge Human Rights Commission (CHRC)

Documents/Materials Used:

- Agenda
- Minutes from February 14, 2019 Meeting
- Letter by Carol Steinberg

Minutes:

A motion to accept the February 14 minutes was seconded and passed.

Updates from the Human Rights Commission: Nancy Schlacter, Executive Director, reported:

Chair's Report: Alicia Zeh-Dean reported:

Public Works Update: Jerry Friedman reported:

- River Street design –
- Find more information online at www.Cambridgema.gov/RiverStreet

Project Coordinator's Report: Kate Thurman reported:

- AAB Bill
 - Following the February meeting's discussion about the AAB bill, the Disability Policy Consortium (DPC) is wondering if CCPD would like to endorse it.
 - Kate is working with the DPC and the Community Development Department (CDD) to develop and distribute a sample letter in support of the AAB bill from local businesses. Some recipients of the City's Storefront Improvement and Retail Interior Accessibility Programs grants may be willing to sign on. It is currently very confusing for small businesses owners, as well as architects and contractors, to figure out AAB and ADA compliance because they must consult two different sets of regulations. If the AAB bill passes and is implemented, providing equivalency with the ADA, only the AAB regulations would need to be consulted. This would be very helpful in preventing business owners from inadvertently being in non-compliance.

- CCPD has been asked to sign on to a letter by Carol Steinberg about the hiring of a new Executive Director of the MAAB. The letter has been revised since members voted to do so at the February meeting. We may have missed the deadline to do so, but I wanted to give you all the option to make a motion.
- ReelAbilities Boston is partnering with Disability Reframed: A Community Film Series again this year, screening *Defiant Lives* on Tuesday, April 2 at 6:30 in the Lecture Hall of the Main Library. The post-screening panel will include Michael Stein of the Harvard Law School Project on Disability, Paul Harpur, a leading international and comparative disability rights legal academic from Australia, and Caitlin Parton, an attorney at the Disability Law Center. (maybe LCL)
- We have invited Christina Giacobbe, the Director of Emergency Communications, to present the new Text to 9-1-1 option and their work in general at either our April or May meeting.
- CCPD will be participating Science in the City this year; it's on Friday, April 12 from 2-6pm and is a kickstart to the annual Cambridge Science Festival. We will have an informational table, giving a presentation on service animals, and screening the documentary *Unrest*, a film by and about a Harvard Ph.D student who becomes inexplicitly ill, unable to get out of bed. Doctors told her it was "all in her head." She was eventually diagnosed with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) (also known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome).
 - CCPD will be purchasing a license for unlimited screenings, so it can be shown at other events, as well
- There has been a string of lawsuits filed against Cambridge businesses alleging ADA violations. Kate did a site visit to Aram's Pizza, 345 Cambridge St., to speak with the owners about physical barriers to their business. Other entities being sued include the Inman Square location of 1369 Coffee House and Mr. Bartley's Burgers in Harvard Square.
- Amy Allen is developing a map of City Hall showing accessibility features. There will be a survey in next week's AccessLetter asking folks for input as to which features they'd like to be included.
- Deputy Superintendent Jack Albert is no longer CCPD's Police liaison. Deputy Dan Wagner will be taking his place and is happy to attend meetings and be of assistance in anyway possible. However, he would like to know if CCPD would prefer that he attend each meeting or come upon request. He wants to be respectful of CCPD members' wishes. Dan oversees night operations and will be heading up a racial profiling prevention initiative that is being launched in the near future. Prior to his promotion to Deputy Superintendent last fall, he worked in crime analysis and with data.
- The San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) is planning to roll out a new app to its police officers that will help them communicate more effectively with deaf victims, witnesses or perpetrators of crime. Through this new policy, the SFPD is planning to give police officers access to a video chatting app on their phones that will connect them to a sign language interpreter, bring them on to a crime scene directly. Jack Albert is looking into the possibility of doing something similar in Cambridge.
- River Festival is on Saturday, June 7 from 11am-6pm. Kate will bring a sign-up sheet to the April meeting so folks can volunteer to staff the CCPD table.
- We will again be participating in PARK(ing) Day on September 20 (I think?). Let Kate know if you have any creative ideas as to what to use our space for.

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kate Thurman