



TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Mayor

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COMMISSION ON DISABILITY RIGHTS & OPPORTUNITIES

MINUTES: The Hamden Commission on Disability Rights & Opportunities will hold a Regular Meeting on Monday, September 12, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the Friends Room, Miller Library Complex. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in attendance: Kathleen Sullivan, Annmarie McConville, Eileen Carpinella, Barbara Brandon, Pat Delaney, Jon Dwyer, Rosalie, Bryan Barry

Commissioners excused: Chris Balogh

Others in attendance: Traci of the Kennedy Center, Bob Gualtieri, ADA Coordinator, Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk

1. Review Minutes of July 11, 2011

Ms. McConville made a motion to approve the minutes of July 11, 2011. Ms. Carpinella seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

2. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

3. Chairman's Report

There was no Chairman's report

4. ADA Coordinator Bob Gualtieri's Report

Mr. Gualtieri received a call today from an individual looking for grant opportunities for a ramp at a private residence. He referred the caller to Chris Marchand of the Community Development Office.

The Town is still responding to sidewalk repair requests. As problems are being corrected, they also create curb cuts.

The Town Attorney has requested the assistance of the Commission in developing guidelines for the Town Traffic Commission for handicap parking requests on private property. Mr. Gualtieri explained the process of getting a handicapped sticker. The form is available from the Department

of Motor Vehicles, and it must be filled out and submitted along with a doctor's note. Mr. Gualtieri and Dr. Barry will research guidelines and we will discuss this at our next meeting.

5. Committee Reports

Ms. McConville said the process should start now for the Autumn Fling. Ms. McConville will get a date from Dave DeMartino. Whatever the date, we will have a costume party. Preregistration is \$5, and at the door is \$10. People who preregister will get a raffle ticket. After some discussion, it was decided that all tickets must be purchased in advance. Rosalie Cavanaugh will talk to the DJ. There will be prizes for costumes, cutest, funniest, etc. Some of the commissioners will be judges. Food will be the same, finger food, soda, water, etc. It will take place on a Friday night at the Middle School. Mr. Dwyer will try to get some food donations from Big Y where he works. Ms. Cavanaugh will try to get some donations for gift certificates. Once we get the date, Mr. DeMartino will print the flyers and Ms. McConville will mail them.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

Ms. Delaney ran into someone in Stop & Shop who said that with the new renovations to the old town hall the entrance would be through the police station. Bob Gualtieri said this is not true, it will be handicapped accessible with a ramp leading to the front entrance.

Ms. Carpinella said the Sprout Film Festival was held at ECA Friday night, with about 30 people in attendance. The program was also presented at Wintergreen Magnet School earlier in the afternoon. The students at Wintergreen asked good questions.

A Cultural Passages workshop will be held at the Creative Arts Workshop, and there will be a National VSA exhibit featuring Vito Bonnano. This exhibit will be for another two weeks. Local artists from the Greater New Haven area are featured on another floor.

By end of September WWW.ctvsa.org will be up and running. They had an unveiling for the State Arts Commission this past week. This is a comprehensive resource for artists over 18 with disabilities. There will also be a gallery in the future for artists.

There was discussion on ordering tee shirts for our new members.

Ms. Tobin will send the Commissioner's email addresses to the Chamber. She will also ask Dave Richards to send Dr. Barry the Town's logo for the tee shirts.

Tracy from the Kennedy Center of Trumbull, CT attended our meeting to make the Commissioners aware of the Center's programs. They provide day programs job coaches, job placement, and many other types of programs. They have a travel training program which she described, which is to promote independence to help disabled people get around. This is a free service. A travel trainer meets with the individual, finds about about them, and goes out with the person one on one until the person is able to do it on their own. At first they will be followed by car, or someone sitting in the back of the bus. The service can be used as many times as they want. Tracy is one of the trainers. They also do training for the trains as far as New York City. They have a new, similar service for seniors.

Ms. Delaney announced that the Hamden North Haven Special Olympic softball team won a gold medal yesterday.

8. Adjourment

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 12th, due to the Columbus Day holiday.

Ms. Sullivan made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Dwyer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk