



TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Scott D. Jackson
Mayor

Hamden Government Center
2750 Dixwell Ave
Hamden, CT 06518
Tel: (203) 287-7100
Fax: (203) 287-7101

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY RIGHTS & OPPORTUNITIES

AGENDA: The Hamden Commission on Disability Rights & Opportunities held a Regular Meeting on Monday, July 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Preview Room, Miller Library Complex. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Pat Delaney, Annmarie McConville, Eileen Carpinella, Chris Balogh, Bryan Barry
Commissioners Excused/Absent: Rosalie Cavanaugh, Jon Dwyer, Kathleen Sullivan, Barbara Brandon
Others in Attendance: Chris Marchand, ADA Coordinator
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk

1. Review Minutes of June 11, 2012

Ms. Delaney made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2012 meeting. Ms. Carpinella seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

2. Correspondence

Mr. Balogh announced that the Commission has received the invoice for its annual membership in the Hamden Chamber of Commerce. If the bill is paid prior to July 27th, the Commission is eligible to enter a drawing for some prizes, including a free booth at the Hamden Expo. **Ms. Delaney made a motion to pay the Chamber membership Fee of \$150. Ms. Carpinella seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

3. Chairman's Report

Mr. Balogh referred a caller to Mr. Marchand. The caller's disabled son is moving back to Hamden and needs handicapped ramp access. Mr. Marchand sent them an application.

Dr. Barry said his Business After Hours went extremely well. Ms. Connecticut, Ms. Dudchik of the Chamber and Ms. Bonnano of Joiya were dunked and \$1,600 was raised. Food and cash donations provided approximately 8,000 meals. There was a great turnout and even after the event donations were received. He also had a grand opening of his office that evening. Dr. Barry made the decision to donate to the food bank. (CT food bank) Dale Kroop mentioned to Dr. Barry that the Keefe Center is low on food. Another food drive will be considered.

4. ADA Coordinator's Report

Mr. Marchand said he has not received any complaints for the last two months. Regarding the All Abilities Playground at Town Center Park, the RFP was sent out and results are due back 7/27. There was a walk through for contractors to look at the site. The next step is to review the proposals, narrow them down to 3-5 and then interview the contenders. The Mayor would like to have someone (or more than one) from the Commission on Disability Rights & Opportunities on the panel. Ms. Delaney was involved in planning a disability playground some years ago. Ms. Tobin will get the dates and times of the meetings from Julie Smith and notify the Commissioners.

Mr. Marchand also reported that the work at Larry's Playground at Bassett Park is coming along nicely and while it is not an all abilities playground, it is ADA compliant.

Regarding the 1993 self evaluation and transition plan, Mr. Marchand has been reviewing them. His idea is lets try to look at all the building we have, and then incorporate that into a plan going forward. Complaints to the help desk and Mayor's Office would be considered. Commissioners agreed that this makes the most sense.

Ms. Delaney brought up the lack of handicap access at Bon Ton. The closest curb cut is to an entry door that goes up three steps. The other one is quite a long walk to the other entry door. There have been some changes at the Mart. Mr. Marchand will check into this. Mr. Marchand followed up on the doctor's office on the corner of Whitney Avenue and Colonial Drive. The building official called the owner and he took care of the doors and is changing a parking spot to ease access.

5. Committee Reports

Ms. Delaney has not heard back from the person that does kayak/boat rides for the disabled on the Quinnipiac River, but will bring the information to the September meeting.

6. Old Business

Dr. Barry reported that the Chamber just held a grand reopening. They had wanted to move into Memorial Town Hall, but that didn't work out, so they redid their office space. A local carpenter and a helper created a new rack for brochures. Dr. Barry would like to have some of the Commission's material available in the rack. This would include business cards for the Commission.

7. New Business

There was discussion on the Commission's award to businesses friendly to handicapped persons. After discussion, it was decided to include a nomination form in the July mailing with nominations due by August. Ms. Delaney will put something in the media. It was decided that there would be two awards, one for hiring the disabled and one for physical access.

8. Adjournment

Dr. Barry made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Delaney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk