



# 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, July 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Friends Room, Miller Library Complex. The following issues will be discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Rosalie Cavanaugh, Jon Dwyer, Eileen Carpinella, Annmarie McConville, Chris Balogh, Bryan Barry

Commissioners Excused: Marc Dupont

Others in Attendance: ADA Coordinator Chris Marchand, Commission Clerk Gerry Tobin

Mr. Balogh called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Review Minutes of May 20, 2013

**Ms. Cavanaugh made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2013 meeting. Ms. Carpinella seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

Review Informal Notes of June 17, 2013

2. Correspondence

There was no correspondence. Mr. Balogh distributed copies of an article from the New Haven Register showing that ADA is alive and well. A complaint against the XL Center by New Haven's Michelle Duprey has been settled, and the XL Center will be correcting its ADA deficiencies.

3. Chairman's Report

4. ADA Coordinator Chris Marchand's Report

Mr. Marchand reported that there have been no new ADA complaints filed, and all past complaints have been resolved. It is hoped that the new all abilities playground will be ready by this coming Friday. The weather has been the cause of the delay. There will be a grand opening coordinated with Josh's family at a date to be announced.

Ms. Carpinella noted that Blessing Offer is opening for the July 19<sup>th</sup> Doo Wop concert. Hamden's Blessing Offer was one of four of the National Young Soloists, and played at the Kennedy Center. He was also asked to play for a congressional session, and has recorded CDs.

There was discussion on the need for one new commissioner.

5. Committee Reports

Ms. Cavanaugh asked if we could use the commission's funds for a bus trip to a ball game for the over 21 disabled population. Ms. Delaney arrived and presented information that she researched on the cost and type of buses available. Ms. Delaney said the prices range from \$325 to \$425 for six hours. The more expensive bus can fit 40 passengers and two wheel chairs. The \$325 bus is a handicap bus that holds 8-10 people and two wheelchairs. Ms. Delaney is waiting from additional information from the bus company that transports in Milford.

The trip would be offered to Hamden residents only on a first come first served basis. The commission would pay for the transportation and clients would pay the cost of food and admission. Ms. Carpinella said it is just like when you have a performance at a theater. They only have a certain number of seats accessible. The bus has to be rented for 6 hours. One hour each way, plus the game. There was discussion.

Ms. McConville will discuss this event with Dave DeMartino of Arts, Recreation & Culture and get permission from the Town for the commission to run this trip. If approved, she will send a flyer to Hamden group homes and at home over 21 disabled Hamden residents. The bus would leave the Library parking lot at 10:30 a.m. on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The trip would be restricted to Hamden residents. The cost would be \$30 per person, and staff would have to pay. Registration and payment would have to be received by August 5<sup>th</sup> in order to give the bus company and the venue proper notice.

Because the commission does not meet in August, communication will have to be by email.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

Dr. Barry had the commission's membership bill for the Hamden Chamber of Commerce. The commission receives a discounted rate of \$150.

**Ms. Carpinella made a motion to expend commission funds in the amount of \$150 to pay the Hamden Chamber membership fee. Ms. Delaney seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

Commissioners updated their information for the Chamber database.

8. Adjournment

**Mr. Balogh made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Cavanaugh seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk