



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 held a Regular Meeting on Monday, March 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Friends Room, Miller Library Complex. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Chris Balogh, Brian Barry, Rachel Dobin, Jon Dwyer, Rosalie Cavanaugh, Pat Delaney, Marc Dupont, Annmarie McConville

Commissioners Excused: Eileen Carpinella

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

1. Review Minutes of November 10, 2014

Ms. Delaney made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2015 meeting. Ms. Dobin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

2. Correspondence

Mr. Balogh has submitted the registration form for the Memorial Day Parade. He asked that commissioners invite people to march with them.

3. Chairman's Report

Mr. Balogh had nothing to report.

4. ADA Coordinator's Report

Mr. Marchand has had no new ADA issues or calls. Two ADA ramps have been installed through the Community Development Block Grant program. One was for a high school student who had to leave his electric wheel chair at the High School because he could not get it into this home. The other was for an elderly resident.

There was discussion on the My Ride program. Our guest from last month was invited to attend the transit authority meeting, but did not attend. Mr. Marchand reminded the commission that the Town's contract is different from the transit district contract, as discussed at the January meeting.

Ms. Delaney said the Town's contract with MyRide does not provide Sunday service. Ms. Delaney said other towns do have Sunday service, and perhaps the Town can look into that.

5. Committee Reports

Ms. Delaney explained that in the past we have donated \$200 to the Special Olympics. She said they are very much in need of donations and made a motion that the commission donate \$300 this year. Ms. McConville objected and said the commission should donate \$500 explaining that the funds in the commission's account are proceeds from the dances sponsored by the commission, and since so many of those that attend the dances also participate in Special Olympics, she feels that the money should go back to them. Commissioners agreed. Ms. Cavanaugh mentioned that the Special Olympics track and field team now practice at the high school and perhaps the donation could be made to their team. **Ms. McConville made a motion to donate \$500 to Special Olympics. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cavanaugh. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

Ms. Delaney presented a report on the Fall Fling showing money collected in the amount of \$792 and expenses of \$375. Ms. Delaney reported that she did not have an update on the commission's bank account.

Ms. McConville has secured a date for the Spring Fling. This event will be held on April 24th at the Hamden Middle School. Ms. McConville will send the flyers out this week. The commission decided to charge \$8 for Hamden residents and \$10 for out of town guests. There was also discussion on having "no admissions at the door" on the flyer, but if people show up, they will be allowed in.

There was also discussion regarding the Town's past participation with Camp Rainbow and Special Olympics, which was discontinued years ago.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

There was discussion on nominating a Disability Friendly Business for an award at the fall dinner of the Hamden Regional Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Balogh will write something up for the Chamber newsletter soliciting nominees, and will also mention that donations for Special Olympics would be welcome.

Mr. Dupont mentioned another job fair for disabled workers sponsored by the CT Department of Labor and CT BLN. It is called the DiverseAbility Job Fair and will take place at the Hartford Sheraton South in Rocky Hill on April 28th from 9:00 a.m. To 1:00 p.m. Details can be found at CTBLN.com

8. Adjournment

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

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk

