



**TOWN OF HAMDEN
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

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COMMISSION ON DISABILITY RIGHTS & OPOPRTUNITIES

MINUTES: The Commission on Disability Rights & Opportunities held a Regular Meeting on Monday, July 13, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Friends Room, Miller Library Complex. The following items were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Joe Petrini, Annmarie McConville, Sandra Adams, Susan Adams, Kathleen Sullivan, Pat Delaney, Bryan Barry

Commissioners Absent: Chris Balogh & Theresa Nevin were excused:

Others in Attendance: Judith Mortenson, Young Audiences VSA Arts
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk

Mr. Petrini called the Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Review Meeting Minutes

Mr. Petrini made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 8th meeting as submitted. Dr. Barry seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Chairman's Report

Mr. Petrini had no report.

Committee Reports

August 1st Barbecue

Ms. McConville has communicated with Dave DeMartino regarding games and the use of the Veterans Building for the Barbecue. The building will be used if it rains. Ms. Sullivan will help Ms. McConville with the food shopping at Ferraro's Market. Mr. Petrini will bring the charcoal. All Commissioners plan to attend the Barbecue on August 1st. The event runs from 4-7, and we

should have a count ahead of time. To date, we have 21 paid attending. Commissioners will bring deserts. Ms. Delaney will bring beans. Coolers are needed. A sign up list went around. Ms. Delaney will bring the boom box.

Bowling July 17th

Mr. Petrini, Ms. Delaney, Ms. McConville, Ms. Susan Adams, Ms. Sandra Adams, Ms. Sullivan, Ms. McConville's sister, possibly Mr. Balogh and Ms. Nevin and the Nevin Kids will help out. Dr. Barry reminded Commissioners to wear their commission shirts and arrive by 5:45 p.m. To date we have 14 paid attendees.

Film Festival

Ms. Delaney was in contact with Arts Coordinator Mimsie Coleman, who wants to set up a meeting. She also contacted Young Audiences VSA Arts and spoke with Judith Mortenson, who is here this evening. Ms. Mortenson spoke to her boss Eileen Carpinella, who offered financial support in the amount of \$800 (half the fee) in return for full partnership in promoting this event and if we would conduct a workshop in the near future which they would provide a professional to run, using Sprout videos. Thornton Wilder is being held for Friday evening, October 23 for this event.

There was discussion on timing and the availability of additional funding in the amount of \$800. Judith Mortenson said a project plan must be put in place to make this successful. They will be happy to work with us in any time frame decided upon. They will work with the Commission on the publicity. Young Audiences is a national organization and the Connecticut Chapter has been in existence for 29 years. They provide artists services to just about any venue you can think of that is connected with art for children.

VSA Arts was started in 1974 by Jean Kennedy Smith and operates in all but two states and operates in 60 countries around the world. They would publish the event to their large mailing list, in their newsletter, etc. Ms. Mortenson told about plans for an art exhibit planned for 2011 at our State University with art from artists with and/or without disabilities.

Ms. Mortenson feels that with the Arts Commission, the Disabilities Commission and VSA Arts working together, the film festival can be can be very successful.

The consensus of the Commissioners was to switch the film festival from October to the early spring to allow more time for planning. Late March or early April were suggested.

Complete guidelines for the film festival will be available once we have the contract signed. Ms. Delaney will notify Sprout's Mr. DeSalvo that we have decided to postpone this to spring for a Friday night in early April.

Commissioners felt it was a wonderful opportunity to have VSA Arts participating with this Commission.

Dr. Barry suggested the Commission hold a tag sale at his place of business, with Commissioners and others donating items for sale. We will plan for that at our September meeting.

Adjournment

Mr. Petrini made a motion to adjourn. Susan Adams seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk