

Meeting called to order by Nichole Mossalam at 6:40 p.m.

1. **Roll Call:** Maria Luise, Nichole Mossalam, Kerlyne Pacombe, Frank Cina, Marilyn Andrews.
2. **Commission Meeting Minutes:** Frank Cina moved to approve the Minutes of the January 24, 2019 Meeting. Kerlyne seconded the motion. All were in favor.
3. **Guests:** Colin Killick, Deputy Director Disability Policy Consortium and Jeff Gentry, Director of Operations for Disability Policy Consortium.

Jeff Gentry introduced the Disability Policy Consortium (DPC), an independent organization, located at 11 Dartmouth Street, Suite 301, Malden. Jeff shared he is happy to be back in Malden since it is committed to Inclusion.

Colin Killick is the Deputy Director of DPC and also the Chairperson of the Somerville Disabilities Commission. They shared the following:

- Malden Summer Youth Summer Employment Program employed 50 teens with differing abilities out of 300 jobs. Some worked in Malden Housing and the Department of Public Works.
- DPC is looking at ways to integrate in Malden.
- DPC is pursuing Community Block Grant monies.
- DPC is currently working on "*Personal Emergency Preparedness Plan*" The purpose is to partner with Malden organizations to connect Malden residents with disabilities with services and to create connectivity. The plan will include the Police, Fire Department and Malden High School.

DPC services include:

- Monthly DPC Conference Call takes place the first Wednesday of each month at 12:00 noon.
- "*My Ombudsman*" is a free service which provides support and information to people in Massachusetts that are enrolled in "One Care" and the ACOs (Accountable Care Organization) for health care. My Ombudsman is helpful to those who need assistance with navigating any issues or concerns with their health plan. "My Ombudsman" mediates between the client and the Health Plan. They also inform the client of their rights. Currently there are 6 people on staff. One staff member is bilingual and there is a deaf/hard of hearing staff member to provide access to this information.
- The Majority of the staff at the DPC are ones that are live with a differing disability and known as "lived experience."
- The DPC also works with the homeless population and those with behavioral health issues.
- They also help with advocating for the pricing of prescription drugs and providing transportation.
- They are in the process of creating a "Disability History Curriculum" for Malden High School. This will consist of 3 two-hour sessions. This curriculum is titled, "*From Institution to Independence.*"

- Working with legislation for a bill so that employee areas are accessible for those with differing abilities. This bill will include all areas, not just public areas. Currently employee areas do not have to be accessible.

Maria made a motion to accept an offer to participate in the Disability History Curriculum. Nichole seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**4. Any Updates and Action Items that need to be addressed from previous meeting.**

- a. By-Laws and Mission Statement: Commission reviewed Articles I (Name), Article II (Mission).
- b. ADA Improvement Grant process will start in the fall.

**5. New Business:**

No complaints or correspondences received.

**6. Scheduling of Next Meeting:** Next Commission Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Malden Senior Center, 7 Washington Street.

**7. Adjournment:** Nichole made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Marilyn seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn R. Andrews, Clerk