

Disability Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 21st, 2022

Meeting called to order @ 6:41 p.m. by Marilyn.

This meeting held via Zoom in accordance with the orders from Governor Baker.
This Meeting was recorded.

1. Roll Call of Committee Members: Maria Luise, Nichole Mossalam, Marilyn Andrews, Amanda Belles, Frank Cina, Chuks Ezewuzie, Tovah Miller, and Shanti Chilukuri were present.
2. Marilyn shared appreciation of having differently abled runners participating in the Boston Marathon.
3. Feb 10th meeting minutes:
Chuks motion to accept
Maria Luise seconded
Motion passes – unanimously
4. Mar 10th meeting minutes:
Amanda motion to accept
Frank seconded
Motion passes – unanimously
5. Approval of new Bylaws
Frank motions to accept
Nichole seconded
Motion passes – unanimously, Nichole will send out new by-laws to all members
6. ADA Evaluation progress updates and Subcommittee reports –
 - a. Schools subcommittee by Marilyn: Site tour of ELC conducted on 2/14/22 by Tovah, Marilyn, and Alex Pratt. Applying for CDBG funds for improvement. Request passed by City Council Finance Subcommittee and up for a vote at the next CC meeting. Members can submit letters of support or make a statement of support in person.
 - b. Policy subcommittee by Nichole: None
 - c. Facilities subcommittee by Frank: None
 - d. DC collaboration group by Amanda: West Medford – rail station is not accessible. Discussion on how we can help. Somerville – working on being able to use fines from disabled parking violations for public accessibility projects.
7. Discussion of next Riders Transportation Access Group (RTAG) meeting on Apr. 28th
8. Discussion of Social Media Policy –

Policy subcommittee will reach out to Anthony from the City to collaborate on creating a city official/commissioner social media policy. Will have an update on the at the June DC meeting.

9. Disabled Persons Protection Committee (DPPC) discussion by Marilyn – Motion made by Nichole: To invite Sarah from the DPPC to do a presentation at a Commission meeting, to post the hotline info on our webpage, and extensively share with all available networks.

Frank seconded

Motion passes – unanimously

10. 2022 Annual Commission Report due Apr 28th –

Amanda motions that Marilyn and Maria Luise will fill out report and submit.

Chuks seconds

Motion passes – unanimously

11. Comissions on Disability Alliance update by Maria Luise from the monthly meeting of ADA officers to share issues and collaborate with other cities. Big topic was voting and ensuring accessibility at the polls. Next meeting May 4th 12pm-1:30pm on zoom.
12. Update by Marilyn on Transit Action Plan requested by John Alessi (City Transportation Planner) – Meeting on June 1st to discuss community survey. Survey in progress and commissioners urged to help share the info.

13. Discussion regarding Mental Health Awareness month for May.

- a. Parent Professional Advocacy League – Event on May 3rd @ Malden Police Station at 3pm – Mayoral Proclamation and Elliot Community Services will be present
- b. Grant was obtained that provided officers training by mental health clinicians for crisis situations.
- c. A FT Social Worker/Mental Health Clinician for the police department has been hired to deal with crisis situations and do ride alongs.
- d. Discussion regarding a Police Chaplaincy program to help officer deal with mental health stress from on the job situations.

14. Voting Rights letter was sent out – Sen. Barry Finegold responded

15. Public Comment - None

16. Next meeting scheduled for May 12th

17. Meeting adjourned