

TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

Minutes

Advisory Commission for Persons with Disabilities

June 11, 2018

7:00PM Town Hall, Room 217

1. Call meeting to order
 - a. Meeting commenced at 7:05pm
 - b. Members absent: Kelley Fournier, Rebecca Hajosy
2. Minutes
 - a. Minutes from meeting held March 12, 2018 were approved by the Commission
3. Announcements
 - a. Joe Kolczynski, provided an update on the previously passed bill HR 620 ADA Education and Reform Act stating that the bill was defeated by the Senate. The bill seeks to amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to promote compliance through education, to clarify the requirements for demand letters, to provide for a notice and cure period before the commencement of a private civil action, and for other purposes.
 - a. ADACC: Josh Rucker presented the training schedule of the ADA Coalition of Connecticut (ADACC) informing Commission members who may be interested in learning broadening knowledge and understanding of the ADA.
4. Website Update
 - a. Josh Rucker will provide website copy/verbiage to the Commission as a draft to review. The Commission intends to develop additional webpages to the existing Commission webpage located on the West Hartford town website. This will serve as a
5. ADA Safety Training Academy
 - a. Suzanne Oslander gave an overview of the training related to the ADA regarding self-evaluations and transition plans. The CT Safety Academy provided a one-day training for targeted towards designated ADA Coordinators.
6. Voting and Accessibility
 - a. Mary Silverberg and Joe Kolczynski presented information related to accessible voting. A special voter registration day will be held on Thursday, July 19 as part of National Disability Voter Registration Week. The Commission discussed opportunities to improve the voting experience for individuals with disabilities including conducting trainings for the Office of the Registrar of Voters and public service announcements.
 - b. Mary and Joe provided information on the REV UP Campaign. The REV UP Campaign is a nonpartisan initiative of the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) that aims to increase the political power of people with disabilities while also engaging candidates and the media on disability rights issues. The Campaign may be a future opportunity as it was determined that the Commission would not be able to mobilize efforts around the Campaign at this time due to resources.
 - c. Mary and Joe will reach out to the Office of the Registrar of Voters to assess an opportunity for Commission to present to the volunteer staff assigned to work during election day.

7. Commission Chair Appointment
 - a. The Commission voted and approved Mary Silverberg and Joe Kolczynski as the new Co-Chairs of the Commission as Josh Rucker is stepping down from the Commission.
8. Adjournment
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 8:11pm

Next meeting date September 10th, Room 217 7pm