

**TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD**  
**MINUTES**  
**Advisory Commission for Persons with Disabilities**  
**November 8, 2021**

**7:00PM Elmwood Community Center Auditorium**

- Call meeting to order
  - Meeting was called to order at 7:05
  - Members present: Joe Kolczynski, Mary Silverberg, Ann Mione, Kimberly Jacobsen, Jason Mirsky, Kim Grehn, Tara McNeil, Stevie Ann Lis, Suzanne Oslander, (Town ADA Coordinator – Department of Social Services)
  - Members absent: Erin Conneely, Amy Messinger, Erin Conneely
- Minutes from September 13, 2021, meeting were approved.
- Staff Report (Suzanne Oslander – Town ADA Coordinator, Department of Social Services)
  1. Front entrance to Hunter House building located at Westmoor Park has begun along with an ADA compliant ramp and upgraded ADA compliant parking.
  2. A feasibility study is being conducted at Kennedy Park Bathhouse to incorporate family changing rooms.
  3. The planned replacement of the Eisenhower pool and Bathhouse timing will be reviewed by the Town Council during the next two months.
  4. Accessibility improvements are proposed for Spicebush Swamp on Mountain Road, including replacement of the access bridge with an ADA – compliant bridge, installation of an ADA compliant dock and creation of an ADA - compliant path to the bridge.
  5. A bridge replacement project connecting the parking lot to the Miracle League field is proposed. The bridge services hundreds of children with disabilities who use the Miracle League field.
  6. A note of support of these projects would be helpful. (Mary and Joe will provide a letter of support from the WHACPD.)
- New Business
  1. Ann Mione; Community Emergency Response Training. Ann reported initial concern over the lack of attention paid to people with disabilities. After

discussion with Robert McCue, she was assured that training will include consideration and needs of people with disabilities.

2. Report: Interaction between ACPD and Sustainability Commission. (Erin Conneely) Erin Conneely not present: no report available.
- Voting
    1. Kim Jacobsen reported that Bristow Middle School voting site provided inadequate space for wheelchair accessibility to the accessible voting equipment.
    2. Tara McNeil reported that automatic door controls at Hall's voting site were working.
    3. Mary and Joe reported that at the Wolcott voting site wheelchair access to accessible voting equipment was improved and adequate. Instructions for loading of ballot into printer were confusing. Written instructions are correct but the pictorial representation was contradictory and incorrect.
  - Police interaction with people with learning disabilities and those on the Autism Spectrum.
    1. Kim Grehn led a discussion and provided a report on people with disabilities and the criminal justice system. The report contained details on the Disproportionate Impact the Criminal Justice System has on people of color and people with disabilities and the need for reform. (Mary and Joe will contact WHPD training division to arrange a meeting to discuss a training module addressing police interaction with people on the autism spectrum, and people with learning disabilities.)
  - Meeting schedule for 2022 was discussed.
  - Adjournment at 8:10 PM - next meeting date: January 10, 2022 Elmwood Community Center Auditorium 7:00 PM