

TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD
MINUTES
Advisory Commission for Persons with Disabilities
September 12, 2022
7:00PM Elmwood Community Center Auditorium

- Call meeting to order
 - Meeting was called to order at 7:01PM
 - 1. Members present: Joe Kolczynski, Mary Silverberg, Ann Mione, Kimberly Jacobsen, Kim Grehn, Christy Miller, Tara McNeil, Amy Messinger, Suzanne Oslander
 - Members absent: Erin Conneely, Stevie Ann Lis, Jason Mirsky
- Minutes from June 27, 2022 meeting were approved.
- Report (Suzanne Oslander – (Town ADA Coordinator, Department of Social Services)
 1. Eisenhower Pool and Pool House ADA compliant Upgrade.
 - Construction delays
 2. Kennedy Park Pool House ADA compliant Upgrades.
 - Construction Delays
 3. Wolcott Park Restroom ADA compliant Upgrades.
 - Construction delays
 - 4 The Town will hold a preparedness workshop.
- Old Business
 1. Mary and Joe reported on the status of the ECC Advisory Commission.
 - The next meeting is scheduled for September 22., 2022
 - On August 17, 2022 Tecton submitted results of their feasibility study to the Town Council subcommittee. We shared the report with our commission members.
 - The Town and Tecton are holding public meetings. They are scheduled for;
9/14 Initial Concepts 2-3 PM
10/6 Virtual Presentation/Q&A 7-8 PM
10/26 Refining the Design 5=7 PM
 - Mary commented on the poor selection of font size, font color and contrast in the Tecton posting in the Senior Center Bulletin.
 2. Ann Mione reported on CERT.
 - New trainings are scheduled for October 2022
 - Added training within CERT will address Inclusivity and Community.
 - September is Preparedness month

New Business

1. Mary and Joe reported on new Voting Locations. (Conard)
 - Front doors were locked
 - Signage was inappropriately located.
 1. No sign directing to the appropriate parking lot
 2. We noticed a sign on a driveway to the left of the main entrance but was only noticed by chance. We followed the signs and eventually arrived at the polling site, which has a Berkshire Road address. We approached the school from South Main St.
 - Ambiguous instructions for ballot insertion, resulting in the need cast a second ballot.

2. Mary and Joe reported on dangerously placed crosswalk placement. After construction at the intersection of Paige Avenue and Newington Road the crosswalk markings did not align with the curb cuts, on two crosswalks this would result in people in wheelchairs and blind people using canes entering the roadway on the wrong side of the stop line. Mary and Joe contacted Town and State officials. This situation has been corrected.

As there has been much road construction this season commission members are encouraged to notice other discrepancies and take appropriate action.

- Guest Speaker

Roszena Haskins, Executive Director of Equity Advancement for public schools and for the town of West Hartford.

Roszena described her role and responsibilities. She also wanted to know our concerns and how they would affect her activity. She also wanted to know where the town is doing well and where it could do better.

Commission member Tara McNeil, who is an occupational therapist in the Birth to Three program spoke of finding free/inexpensive and ADA accessible places in West Hartford for families to meet together.

Mary suggested that houses of worship may be amenable with providing a location at no or nominal cost.

- Adjournment at 8:10 PM - next meeting date: November 14, 2022 Elmwood Community Center Auditorium 7:00 PM