

Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
March 21, 2023
Meeting Minutes

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The regular meeting of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities of Tuesday, CITY CLERK
March 21, 2023, was held in City Hall, Room 201, Westfield, MA.
Norm Smith III, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Commission Members in Attendance: N.Smith III, J.Tirrell, J.Gosselin, T.Johnson

Public Participation: Anna Boutin-Cooper, 55 Bates Rd.. Employee at Westfield State University -Library; Presented to the commission her interest in a Zine Project and a Grant writing project. She looks forward to collaborate with civic groups, such as WOW, Westfield on Weekends, and has a passion to expand Zines (small magazines on any topic). She believes this project can help people with disabilities throughout the community and western mass area. She made a request for a letter of support to submit with the grant writing project.

Motion made by Norm Smith III, Chair to take item #6 on the Agenda, seconded by Commissioner J.Tirrell; all in favor; 4/0; Motion passes.

New Business:

N. Smith III, Chair noted that the Northampton Disability Commission is showing a Documentary 1970's at the Senior Center in Northampton on July 11. Several commission members shared they will be away on vacation during this time.

N.Smith III, Chair asked if anyone had suggestions or ideas on Safety and Educating citizens on ADA/Disability Safety Awareness. Commissioner J.Gosselin shared that he has done some research on the "Top Ten Tips" and made a suggestion to include this in our new brochure project. Commissioner J.Gosselin will do some more work on this and bring this forward in a future meeting. N.Smith III, Chair and several commission members agreed this would be a worthy item to include in the new brochure project.

N.Smith III, Chair made a motion, to honor Ms. Anna Boutin-Cooper's request for a letter of support to be submitted with her grant writing Zines project, seconded by Commissioner J.Tirrell; Discussion; commission members agree that this is a worthy and creative project to support, all in favor; 4/0; Motion passes.

Motion made by N. Smith III, Chair to approve the Minutes of meeting of February 21, 2023, seconded by Commissioner T. Johnson; all in favor; 4/0; Motion passes.

Fine and Forfeits account update:

The update was submitted by Kim Kolek, Assistant Auditor by email on March 17, 2023. Commissioner J.Gosselin, Secretary read the update: Our balance is at 39,560. Playground All Access/Cross St. is at 59,000 (project completed). Transition Plan Resolution is at 20,000 (commitment). Traffic/Crosswalk signal is at 2,500. Our balance would be at 17,060.

Old business: Update on Informational Brochure. Commissioner J.Gosselin has started research for "Top Ten Tips" and would like to include this in new brochure. He shared that Mr.Barton Cutler, Dir. NC Center for Developmental Disabilities has written extensively about this topic. Further information to follow and review.

N.Smith III, Chair shared that he will follow up with communications with the Mayor about a vacancy that is still open on the commission.

Mail Notice: Commissioner J.Gosselin, Secretary: 2023 Earth Day Clean Up, Saturday, April 22, 2023, meet at 72 Broad Street, Westfield, MA at 8:00am, presented by Mayor McCabe and Westfield Conservation Department.

Next meeting planned will be April 18, 2023. *Always check city website and calendar in case of changes.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner N.Smith, Chair motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by J.Tirrell; all in favor. Commissioner N.Smith III, Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Jeffrey Gosselin, Secretary