



Commission for Citizens with Disabilities

MEETING MINUTES



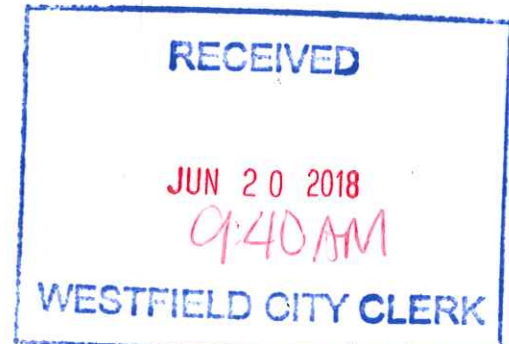
COMMISSION MEMBERS

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Madeline Nicoletti, Chair | Norman Smith III | Jeffrey Gosselin |
| Andrea Pianka | Joanne Tirrell, Acting Secretary | |
| Demetrios Kanavaros | Carissa Lisee | |

The regular meeting of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities of Tuesday, March 20, 2018, was held in City Hall, Room 201, Westfield, MA. Chair Nicoletti called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

ATTENDANCE:

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Commissioner Nicoletti | Commissioner Gosselin |
| Commissioner Smith | Commissioner Kanavaros |
| Commissioner Lisee | Commissioner Tirrell |



APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of the meeting minutes of February 20, 2018: Motion made by Commissioner Lisee to accept the minutes (with the removal of the words Vice Chair from Commissioner Pianka's name), seconded by Commissioner Gosselin: all in favor 6/0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

SCHEDULED BUSINESS:

- Chair's Corner: Chair Nicoletti distributed a copy of City of Westfield Ordinance No. 1611, showing the update to Sec. 2-429, stating that our Commission quorum was changed from 3 to 4 members.

The Chair also distributed copies of a memo from the MOD and the Needham Commission regarding a Community Access Monitor (CAM) Training that will take place at the Central Library, 1139 Highland Ave. in Needham on Friday, May 4, 2018 from 9am – 1pm. This ½ day training is open to anyone who has completed the 2-day CAM training in the past. There is no cost for this training.

Also re-distributed was a registration form for a presentation by the MOD on the Regulations of Massachusetts Architectural Access Board and the Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design. There will be 2 sessions: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 and Wednesday, April 25, 2018, both from 9am – 4pm, at the American Legion Post 185, 478 Springfield St., Agawam, Ma. There is a \$15.00 fee for Consumers and \$85.00 fee for Professionals. Registration cost includes materials and lunch for both days. The cost to Commission members attending is \$15.00 and will be refunded by the city, using our City Disability Commission account funds.

59 Court St.
Westfield, MA 01085

Phone: (413) 572-6201
Email: enablecitizens@cityofwestfield.org
Website: cityofwestfield.org/enablecitizens

The Commission for Citizens with Disabilities strives to enable and facilitate the full integration and participation of people with disabilities in the City of Westfield.

b. Re-election of 2018 Officers

Commissioner Smith took over the election process.

There were 2 nominees for the position of Chair; Commissioner Nicoletti and Commissioner Kanavaros. Before election took place, each candidate gave a brief explanation of why they were seeking this position.

Commissioner Kanavaros stated that he felt our Commission should integrate more with other City departments. He is ready to do that and also he would see that the Commission became more outgoing and involved with the public.

Commissioner Nicoletti stated she wished to be re-elected as Chair because she is always available to attend other Commission and MOD meetings. Also she has much experience working with disabled adults and has been working with children with disabilities from their birth up and keeping up with their IEP's.

Re-election process for 2018 Commission Chair continued: 3 votes for Commissioner Nicoletti, 2 votes for Commissioner Kanavaros; Commissioner Smith abstained. When questioned why, he stated he thought that it was time for a change to the position of Chair; but he felt that Commissioner Kanavaros has not been involved with the Commission for a long enough period of time. At this time, he nominated Commissioner Lisee. All in favor 5/0.

Commissioner Lisee declined the nomination due to family obligations and current job requirements.

At this time, Commissioner Smith made a motion to wait to take another re-vote until there is a full body in attendance; and because there was no nominee for Vice Chair, that one of the two candidates for Chair should be Vice Chair until a final vote is taken; seconded by Commissioner Gosselin, all in favor 6/0.

At this time, Commissioner Kanavaros nominated himself for 2018 Vice Chair, without withdrawing his nomination for the re-election of Chair at a later date. Commission voted to accept his nomination for 2018 Vice Chair; all in favor 5/0.

Commissioner Gosselin was asked if he would be interested in the position of Commission Secretary, and he accepted. Commissioner Lisee made a motion to nominate Commissioner Gosselin for the position of 2018 Secretary, seconded by Commissioner Smith; All in favor 6/0. A vote followed; all in favor 5/0.

Outcome of re-election: Commissioner Nicoletti, Commission Chair
Commissioner Kanavaros, Commission Vice Chair
Commissioner Gosselin, 2018 Commission Secretary

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Update to Commissioner Listing: Commissioner Tirrell passed around the current telephone, address and email listing for updates. The only change was the addition of Commissioner Gosselin's information.

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- b. Westfield Whip Museum Letter Request: Commissioner Pianka was not in attendance due to her work requirements but had sent an email to Commissioner Tirrell, stating she would have it ready for the April meeting.
- c. Commissioner Lisee stated the City has 270 pallets of new bricks available. They were purchased for the new school, which now has been set aside. She asked the Commissioners to think of ideas they may have for using them. She mentioned her idea of selling these bricks to the public and having them engraved as they requested. The bricks could then be incorporated into the new park project for trail paths, sidewalks and entry ways. The cost of engraving the bricks would be included in the total cost of purchase.

She also stated that whatever the idea was, it would have to be coordinated with Peter Miller, Community Development; and that someone other than our Commission members should be heading the project.

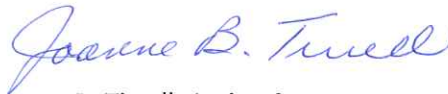
OLD BUSINESS: Conflict of Interest Law Testing: Commissioner Lisee stated that she was missing two test results. The final date for submission is March 31, 2018, and she requested that these be taken and sent to her as soon as possible.

Commissioner Lisee also reported that our current account balance is \$65,205. \$52,000 of this balance is earmarked for the Disability Playground Project; and \$2,500 to the Police Department for the flashing street light at North Elm Street. This leaves our available account balance at \$10,705.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Smith motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Lisee; all in favor 6/0. Chair Nicoletti adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Joanne B. Tirrell, Acting Secretary

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