



## **CITY OF REVERE - COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES**

**Meeting Notes – December 8, 2020 6:00 PM**

**Ralph DeCicco - Chair**

**Email: [disabilities@revere.org](mailto:disabilities@revere.org) Phone: 781-286-8267**

**Meeting Will Be Via Zoom and on Revere TV**

**Please click the link below to join the webinar:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84004624408>**

**Webinar ID: 840 0462 4408**

**Or Telephone: US: +1 929 205 6099**

**Salute to the Flag**

**Roll Call of Members: Present - Ralph DeCicco, Pauline Perno, Robert Bent(Via phone), Asmaa Aabou Fouda, Jason Barone Absent - Enza Goodwin, Brian Vesce**

**Item #1: Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes from November 10, 2020 - Approved by Pauline Perno & Second by Robert Bent with correction of date for next months meeting year.**

**Item #2 Resignation of Commission Member Albert Sheridan- Thanked him for his time on the Commission and wished him well.**

**Item #3 Introduction of New Commission Members- Asmaa Aabou Fouda, Jason Barone & Brian Vesce.**

- **Asmaa has special needs children in the school system.**
- **Jason comes to us with prior transit experience / vision disorders.**
- **Brian was not in attendance for meeting. (Carried over to January Meeting)**

**Item #4: Updates/Next Steps from November Meeting**

**Updates from Pauline Perno regarding contacting Schools for Student Volunteers with documenting HP Sign locations throughout the city. Pauline mentioned that outreach to RHS for student participation re: HP signs was a no go. Viewed as a misinterpretation of what we were trying to achieve and missed opportunity for students to become involved in local government. Ralph suggested looking into private organizations for help such as ROCA...any suggestions please e mail Ralph**

**Item #5: CODA (Commissions on Disabilities Alliance) – Monthly Conference call on December 2, 2020 - Discussion on**

- **AAB Variances: going forward possibility of live presentations and trainings for local Commissions via webinar.**
- **Affordable Accessible Housing and need for more advocacy and networking amongst communities. AAVP (voucher program) the addition of 450 vouchers with no cuts in funding. Local HA's can apply for more vouchers getting more disabled persons into housing. CODA is looking forward to 2021.... And a Government extension to Housing Eviction moratorium**

#### **Item #6: Scheduled November Events / SEPAC Events & Updates**

- **SEPAC plans to host a virtual meeting on 12/14 at 6 PM titled "Special Education During COVID" being presented by Mass Advocates. Information has been shared by RPS to our families. We encourage anyone interested to sign up and/or reach out with any questions on Facebook or Twitter by searching Revere SEPAC.**

#### **Item #7: Commission Member Late Items**

- **Jason brings up issues re: people parking on sidewalks at Revere Beach MBTA Station...needs to be addressed locally and with MBTA and Transit police.**
- **Issues of persons malingering at MBTA stations , posing a problem to people...**
- **Motion by Jason to draft letter to Police Chief outlining issues, 2nd motion by Robert Bent. Asmaa to spearhead letter writing: regarding sidewalk issue, ADA violations.**
- **Robert Bent had a question regarding the City having a debit card payment option**

#### **Item #8: Residents' concerns/issues, questions, and Open Forum**

**Eric Lampedecchio - Tapley Ave addressed the question by Commission member Robert Bent possibility of issuing a Debit based card for residents to use to pay bills at city hall instead of residents needing to use credit card (some individuals are hesitant to give credit card information out). Discussed and acknowledged there would be an added expense , but a creative idea.**

#### **Item #9: Reminder –**

**The Commission on Disabilities due to Covid 19 and the safety of all residents is trying to limit in person appointments due to the unavailability and use at our present office location. Residents can speak to staff from our 311 Constituent Service Center Monday through Friday when you call our office at 781-286-8267. They will be able to answer most questions but if they are unable to or if you would like a call back from our office please ask to be transferred to the Disability offices voicemail and someone will get back to you as soon possible.**

**We are working on solidifying another temporary location for our office for necessary in-person appointments determined by the COD on Friday mornings. We will update this information when available on the City Web sites Disability page.**

**As always please let us know if you would like something discussed or brought up and added to our monthly meeting agenda. You can let us know if you would like to speak on any issue or concern. The Commission is here to help and assist all the disabled residents and families of Revere.**

#### **Next Steps:**

**Motion passed by Commission to send a letter to Revere's Police Chief regarding MBTA issues on Shirley Ave along with other sidewalk and ADA issues throughout the city. Asmaa was going to create a draft of a letter.**

**Motion to Adjourn: Approved by Jason Barone and second by Robert Bent**

**We wish all residents a Happy Hanukah, Kwanzaa, Christmas, and a Happy New Year.**

**Next Meeting: Next Meeting (Via Zoom) will be Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 6:00 PM**