



City of Fall River Massachusetts

Commission on Disability

WILLIAM A. FLANAGAN
Mayor

WILLIAM FONTAINE
Chairman

DENNIS POLSELLI
Vice Chairman

Minutes from March 20, 2014

Called to Order: 2:03 PM

- 1) Roll Call: Chairman William Fontaine, Vice-Chair. Dennis Polselli, Ken Pacheco, Debbie Pacheco, Michael Geary

Excused: Lisa Atkinson

Staff: Claudia Viens, HHS

Guest: Let. Paul Bernier, Sgt. William Mace

- 2) Public Input: None
- 3) Acceptance of minutes: from January 9, 2014
Motion: Mike Geary
Second: Debbie Pacheco

Chair. Fontaine reminded Claudia Viens that the minutes of the meeting are to be sent to all the City Councilors and Paul Remy.

Chair. Fontaine stated he would like to go out of order and make a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of HP abuse program discussion.

Motion: Mike Geary

Second: Ken Pacheco

Reconvene Time to regular meeting at 2:47 p.m.

- 4) Bills and Communications:

- a) Material from M.O.D.

Chair. Fontaine stated that we have material from Mr. Dougan on ADA booklets and he gave them to Claudia Viens. Chair. Fontaine wanted to thank Mr. Dougan from M.O.D. for doing that.

Chair. Fontaine also received from M.O.D. a CAM (Community Access Monitor) training on June 6 & 7 in No. Attleboro. If anyone is interested the cost is \$15 for consumers and \$80 for professionals. Chair. Fontaine asked Ken Pacheco if he could scan the information and send it to the Commissioners.

b) Response from Mayor Flanagan; Law Dept.; Mr. Biszko

Chair. Fontaine stated we had a meeting with Mrs. Pacheco, Mr. Pacheco, Vice Chair. Dennis Polselli, myself and Ms. Ferreira with Attorney Howayeck to discuss why the ADA Coordinator has not attended any of the meetings and the yearly report.

Chair. Fontaine asked Mr. Pacheco if he received any information for the yearly report.

Ken Pacheco stated he has not received anything. Mr. Pacheco suggested to submit a financial report to the City Council.

Debbie Pacheco suggests we could maybe reach out to one of the other Disability Commissions to see their format for a yearly report.

Vice Chair. Polselli stated he worked on a yearly report for another city and it just consisted of the year events.

Debbie Pacheco stated when we develop the annual report we date the report July 1 to June 30 the following year.

Chair. Fontaine stated we have not heard anything from Mr. Biszko.

Ken Pacheco suggests sending a letter to the ADA Coordinator for the city.

Chair. Fontaine asked Debbie Pacheco if she would like to draft the letter.

Debbie Pacheco stated that she and Vice Chair. Polselli will work on drafting a correspondence by e-mail to the ADA Coordinator.

c) Request from Committee on Legislation and Ordinance

Chair. Fontaine stated Councilor Rego requested through the Chairman to go to one of there meetings. Lisa Atkinson and the Chairman have been gathering information. The Chairman asked what would the Commission would like to do? Either to go as a whole body or as a member.

Ken Pacheco stated the Committee is looking for direction. We should have a packet ready to give them. So they can put a draft Legislation together.

Mike Geary stated by the end of the year, every cab company would be required to take wheelchairs.

d) Mr. Paul Remy-Accessibility for fitting room-Savers/Stafford Rd

Chair. Fontaine received e-mail from a former Commissioner Paul Remy.

Chair. Fontaine asked the Commission for permission to go to Savers/Stafford Rd to see if there are any AAB issues. Chair. Fontaine will report back to the Commission and if there are any issues he will contact the ADA Coordinator and Mr. Biszko.

Motion: Ken Pacheco
Second: Debbie Pacheco

5: Awareness:

a) Placard display while driving

Chair. Fontaine stated, "Please do not hang your placard in the rear view mirror as you are driving, it's against the law and it obstructs your view."

Vice. Chair. Dennis Polselli stated this would be a good tip to put on FRGTV bulletin board.

Chair. Fontaine stated he will get a form and before he posts anything he will bring it back to the Commission.

6: Old Business:

a) HP abuse program – Ken Pacheco would like to make a motion to continue the program at \$128,128 for FY15. And as part of the motion this Commission begins in October looking at the financial piece to be sure we can give the Chief adequate notice of its continuance or discontinuance. No later than January 1.

Motion: Ken Pacheco
Second: Vice Chair. Dennis Polselli

b) Commission Brochure – Debbie Pacheco stated Atty. Howayeck the ADA Coordinator has the Commission Brochure and she should have an answer by the beginning of next week. Once I receive approval from Atty. Howayeck then it needs to be printed.

Chair. Fontaine stated to send it to the Secretary, Ken Pacheco to be printed.

Vice Chair. Polselli asked if it will be on our website.

Chair. Fontaine stated he would send it to Paul Remy.

c) Braille Machine/service – Ken Pacheco stated he put \$10,000 in the building budget for the purchase of equipment. There are funds available as of July 1st to purchase equipment. What he feels we should do in the mean time on the city side is contract services required to an outside vendor. Until we have adequate software and hardware to produce anything that we need. Mr. Pacheco asked Vice Chair. Polselli if he could make notes somewhere on the city website or how better to get the word out that this service is available.

Vice Chair. Dennis Polselli stated we could use the website, government TV bulletin board, radio station and BCC access channel.

7) New Business: None

8) Agenda:

Ms. Clark – Fall River Public Library

Chief Richard Aguiar – Emergency Evacuation Plan

Review M.O.D. survey of Government Center-Update

CD Rec. – Bank St. Armory-Ramp/doorbell

All unfinished business from 2013

9) Adjourn: 3:18 p.m.

Motion: Mike Geary

Second: Debbie Pacheco