

CITY OF REVERE - COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

AGENDA – February 13, 2018 6:00 PM

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL

Ralph DeCicco - Chair

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Salute to the Flag

Roll Call of Members

Item #1: Our Commission on Disabilities applied for a Mini- Grant through the partnership of MGH Revere CARES Coalition and the City of Revere's Healthy Community Initiatives Department.

- **We applied for this grant for a program that commission member Robert Bent suggested. With this program we will create and establish a safe environment for the disabled youth of all ages and be able to learn and implement artistic, social, educational and emotional skills so they feel like they belong and are the same as the abled body youth and young adults in our city. Also it is a way to show the volunteers who do not have disabilities a way to help and assist with people of all abilities allowing them to learn how they function in society on a day to day basis being disabled physically, mentally or emotionally.**

Item #2: Update on The Commission on Disabilities in conjunction with the Mayor's office hosting the Spring Metro Regional Commission on Disability Meeting by the MOD in Revere.

- **With the approval from Mayor Arrigo we will be hosting this meeting on Tuesday May 1st from 10:30 AM – 1:30 PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall. This meeting is for all Disability Coordinators, Administrators and Commission Members in this region.**

Item #3: CODA- (Commissions on Disabilities Alliance) Monthly Conference call Meeting For February: Had a conference call on last Wednesday the 5th and items on the Agenda included a Variance Seminar that will be taking place at Boston City Hall on Friday May 18th and they will be sending out further information on this. They also briefly discussed the state parking guide. Which they will be going into more detail on future calls. Another topic discussed was the alliances continued goal setting items for 2018 and asked everyone to think about ideas. I also mentioned that Revere will be hosting the spring Metro Regional Commission on Disabilities Meeting for the State MOD in May. One other item I mentioned that I would like to discuss on our call next month is exploring a way in which hospitals and medical buildings agree to allow a fee exemption for people attending an appointment or procedure that have either a HP Placard or Plate in Massachusetts. This is not only applicable at medical and hospital garages or lots in many European countries but also privately owned parking lots and garages. They are going to place it on our calls Agenda for next month and I will keep everyone updated.

Item #4: Update regarding the idea and desire to have a fully accessible playground /park built by the HYM Development Group at Suffolk Downs.

- **Since I mentioned that at our last meeting I have spoke to Bob O'Brien who is part of our Economics Development Office regarding my desire to see this established and was in full support. My timing was perfect as he was writing a proposal to the development group on what the City of Revere would want and like to see at this site. Mr. O'Brien was going to add this in the proposal. Also he said that he would like me to be part of more elaborate discussions with the development group in the near future.**

I have also mentioned to Patricia Mendez who is the Architectural Access Specialist for the City of Boston Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities office my idea regarding the fully accessible ADA approved municipal playground on The Suffolk Downs development project either in Revere, East Boston both or in the middle of the project. She loved the thought of implementing this and would bring it to the rest of her members. Since our original conversation I received an email that they are delighted of the opportunity to join the City of Revere in its accessibility goals, and particularly in support of accessible playgrounds at the project site. They would like to invite me to Boston City Hall to meet with their development team. Her team is part of the BPDA review process. I just need to check my calendar to give them some possible dates and times for the next 2 or 3 weeks.

Item #5 Update of City Events for February:

- **Drop and stay play group continues to run on Monday nights from 6 to 7:30 PM at the Revere Rec. See our drop and stay play group Facebook page for more information.**
- **On Monday, February 12 Our drop and stay play group will run a Valentine's Day party for children ages 2-9 for \$5 per child**
- **Sepac will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 28th at 6:00 at the Revere League for Special Needs.**

Item #6: Old Business.

- **Update regarding Municipal ADA Planning Grant that Revere COD applied for. We received a letter dated February, 2018 that unfortunately we were not included in this round of funding again.**
- **Update regarding Metro Boston Homeland Security Region (MBHSR) Working Group. Project Management Team (PMT)**
- **Update regarding City of Revere Commission on Disabilities Accessibility Survey**

Item #7: Late Items.

Item #8 Open Forum – Residents concerns with ongoing issues, questions or feedback

Item #9 Reminder:

- **The Commission on Disabilities has office hours on Fridays from 8:15-12:15 in the Veterans Services Office in the rear of the legion Building at 249R Broadway which is next door to city hall. You can call for an appointment if you would like but do not need one. You will be able to talk to someone from our 311 Constituent Service Center on other days 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 they can transfer you to the Disability offices voicemail and someone will get back to you as soon as they can.**

Also 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 come and speak on it. Our Commission is here to help and assist all the disabled residents and families of Revere.

Happy Valentine's Day to Everyone.

Adjournment- Next Meeting will be Tuesday March 13, 2018 at 6:00 PM