



CITY OF REVERE - COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
AGENDA – November 12, 2019 6:00 PM
REVERE CITY HALL - 2ND FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Ralph DeCicco - Chair Rick Freni - Vice Chair
Email: disabilities@revere.org Phone: 781-286-8267

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call of Members:

PRESENT-Robert Bent, Albert Sheridan, Pauline Perno, Ralph DeCicco, Rick Freni

ABSENT-Michele DeBellis and Enza Goodwin

Item#1: Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes from October 8, 2019

Robert Bent made motion, 2nd by Albert Sheridan.

Item #2: CODA (Commissions on Disabilities Alliance) - Monthly Conference call Meetings on Wednesday November 6, 2019. This call was in regards to a follow up on the open position for the head of AAB. CODA had gathering members and traction on trying to keep the State to not hire a Director who would not have the best interest or knowledge in regards to Disability rights when variances are brought before them. CODA is in the beginning stages of looking for people who would be will to help with this endeavor. More information to follow at next month's CODA meeting.

Ralph DeCicco spoke of Item #2.

Item #3: Scheduled November Events and Upcoming Event in December:

- **SEPAC Events on November 4th: SEPAC invited parents and guardians to a free Basic Rights Workshop hosted by the Federation for Children with Special Needs. This was a great opportunity to gain information about the IEP process.**
- **December 14th: SEPAC is hosting its annual holiday party on Saturday, December 14th from 2:30-4pm at the Garfield Community School. Children and their families will enjoy games, music, bounce house, and a special visit from Santa. Snack and water donations are always helpful. Please consider donating or volunteering for this special event.**

-Rick Freni Read Item #3

Item #4: Self Evaluation Plans and Transition Plans of Municipal Buildings Update

-Ralph DeCicco stated he is scheduled to meet with department heads regarding to go over and finalize the transition plan draft so that a copy can be submitted to the State MOD for compliance.

Item #5: Information Regarding Public Hearing held on Monday October 28th at the City Council Meeting in regards to the creation of a City Ordinance to Ban Single-Use plastic straws in the City of Revere.

-Ralph DeCicco spoke passionately about the push to ban plastic straws and how the disabled community is not being considered. Because of sensory issues in the Autistic community that is playing a big role in the push to not ban plastic straws. There is a meeting of the Legislative Affairs Sub Committee Monday November 18, 2019. He also mentioned how California has banned plastic straws but has them on site for people with sensory issues but are frowned upon and being pointed out for using them regardless of their disability. Some states that have banned plastic straws are looking to change the law because the Autistic/Disabled community were not considered, thought of or heard from beforehand The Legislative Affairs meeting is at 5pm on the 18th. Expected to be attended by Ralph DeCicco, Rick Freni, Robert Bent and perhaps other members of the Revere COD.

Item #6: Update or Information Regarding Pauline Perno's action item pertaining to pedestrian crosswalks.

-Pauline Perno spoke on her conversation with Julie DeMauro who is the Active Transportation Manager for the City of Revere regarding concerns with pedestrian walkways down the beach and Ocean Avenue. Pauline Perno stated Julie DeMauro indicated the current walkways are flagged correctly but Pauline mentioned her issues are with safeguards during construction which there is no timeline on completion as of yet and how construction impedes crosswalks and sidewalks along the city and state owned areas. Julie will be contacting the appropriate state agencies to discuss these issues and will keep Pauline updated.

Item #7: Late Items - (Will be discussed if any arise after posting of Monthly Agenda)

-Ralph DeCicco stated the COD is close to having the disability survey and HP parking spot sign application online so that they can be filled out electronically. He also stated the addition of Laserfiche will have all applications/letters to access for the disabled community. There will be a COD folder also with several subfolders for easy accessibility. This is all in lieu of paper.

-Ralph DeCicco stated there is a meeting he will be attending this week with the Mayor's office regarding signalization upgrades from Broadway to Brown circle and he will keep us informed.

**Item #8: Open Forum Residents concerns with ongoing issues, questions or feedback:
-No Resident issues present in the chamber.**

Item #9: Next Steps

- Ralph Decicco will update Commission on Transition Plan Finalization document meeting.**
- Ralph DeCicco will update Commission on Signalization Meeting.**
- Pauline Perno will update Commission on any new information regarding crosswalks.**

Item #10: 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 any issue or concern. The Commission is here to help and assist all the disabled residents and families of Revere.

Rick Freni read Item #10.

Motion to Adjourn: Robert Bent made motion to adjourn, 2nd by Albert Sheridan.

Happy Thanksgiving

Next Meeting will be Tuesday December 10, 2019 at 6:00 PM.