



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

**Meeting Agenda Notes – February 8, 2022 @ 6:00 PM**

**Ralph DeCicco - Chair    Pauline Perno - Vice 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/879 9134 6824](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87991346824)**

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

**Webinar ID 879 9134 6824**

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call of Members: Present-Ralph DeCicco, Pauline Perno, Mario Grimanis, Jason Barrone, Asmaa Aabou-Fouda, Robert Brown. Absent Enza Goodwin (covering SEPAC)**

**Item #1: Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes from January 11, 2022- Approved by Asmaa / Second by Jason**

**Item #2: Introduction & Welcoming of New Commission on Disability member Robert Brown- Robert joins us as a parent to a three-year-old son with ASD. Robert has been doing a great amount of research on laws, IEP's issues pertaining to children with disabilities.**

### **Item #3: Updates/Next Steps from January Meeting-**

- monthly updates on MBTA , and the use of subcontracting RIDE services to UBER / LYFT....this will be reviewed and revisited monthly for ongoing / new information.**
- Asmaa provides an update on ASL interpreter services, Northeastern University does not encourage their students to do interpretation services. Looking to Mass Commission for Deaf / HOH for services... will update during the March meeting. There are other communities who are also looking to hire ASL interpreters for their meetings ; in time we will see a shift in more communities utilizing ASL / CC services to increase accessibility .... This would also promote attendance at meetings regardless of in person or remote. At is time we can stay fully remote through April, cities and towns should continue to have this as an option .**
- Snow plowing: the city needs a more comprehensive system for snow plowing snow removal on roadways, walkways, sidewalks, and areas of crosswalks. The people most affected / impacted by inadequate snow removal are the disabled (all ages ) and seniors.**

#### **Item #4: SEPAC January Updates/February Events**

- **In January, SEPAC hosted DESE's (Department of Education) Special Education staff in a virtual meeting to talk about the ongoing RPS Special Education review process. We had about 25 people attend, including Mr. Pierce, our 6-12 Special Education Director. Parents asked questions and voiced concerns. Next steps were to complete the survey from DESE. Enza Goodwin will be a part of the interview review in early February on behalf of SEPAC.**
- **SEPAC is hosting an open forum on Thursday, February 10th at 6pm. We have invited the School Committee in hopes that parents can ask questions and voice any concerns. This is an RSVP event. We hope to have a great turnout as this is a great opportunity to hear from our School Committee and plan future steps for SEPAC.**
- **Enza Goodwin will continue to update The COD on SEPAC events and information.**

**Item #5: Update on Senate Bill 5254 regarding Permanent mail in ballots passed the MA House of Representatives on January 27<sup>th</sup> and was engrossed with amendments. It now must go back to the Senate. If approved by the Senate this would be a great win, especially for people with disabilities. Hopefully it has a provision in it to also include special elections.**

#### **Item #6: CODA (Commissions on Disabilities Alliance) – Monthly Zoom meeting February 3, 2022-**

- **Discussion regarding Data on disabilities done via brown / city.**
- **Patricia Mendez from Boston COD mentioned AAB information and discussed that The Center for Universal Design is focusing on education....**
- **Also, other CODs mentioned they wanted to know “What happens with repeat code violation” It was said that MGL states it goes back to local municipalities. They also mentioned accessibility issues.**

#### **Item #:7 Commission Members Late Items –**

- **crosswalk signage by Mass State Police Barracks has been “taken down “ and signs are now propped up with buckets, Pauline will take photos of the area in question and forward to Ralph for further action.**

#### **Item #8: Residents' concerns/issues, questions, and Open Forum - NONE**

#### **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.**

**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 to Adjourn: The COD will continue with monthly discussion / update on MBTA, ASL interpretation services. Also any information regarding issue with signage on beach mentioned by Pauline.**

**Motion to Adjourn: Made by Jason / Second by Mario**

**Next Meeting: (Via Zoom) will be Tuesday March 9, 2022 at 6:00 PM**