

CITY OF REVERE - COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES
AGENDA – November 13, 2018 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 were Ralph DeCicco, Rick Freni, Michelle DeBellis, Pauline Perno and Robert Bent.
Absent were Enza Goodwin and Albert Sheridan

Item#1 Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes from October 9, 2018
Motion made by Rick Freni and 2nd by Robert Bent.

Item #2: Welcome and Introduction of two new Commission Members:
Pauline Perno and Albert Sheridan

Mr. DeCicco welcomes and introduces Pauline Perno and Albert Sheridan.
Pauline Perno spoke about her background and mentioned that she is excited about joining.
(Mr. Sheridan was sick and not at meeting so he will speak at next scheduled meeting)

Item #3: Update regarding All Inclusive Art Program

Mr. Freni acknowledged the Art program is going well for the past 3 weeks.
Projects are going great due to the grant from MGH and thanks to Robert Bent and Ralph DeCicco in assisting with this program.
Robert Bent mentioned the Art program is awesome and great for the community.
Mr. Freni thanked both men for helping out the ART program and talks about the FB page and how to see the updates and events in the city.

Item #4: Scheduled Events

- **SEPAC Recap for October:**
Michelle DeBellis thanked everyone for the generous donations for the SEPAC Halloween party and to Rick Freni and his Dj services. We had over 30 children and their families come to our party at the Rec. A fun time was had by all!
- **SEPAC November:**
We are having a fundraiser at Fuddruckers on Thursday, November 15th from 5-8pm. Please come have some great food and support our group.
- **Also SEPAC will be hosting Boston vs Bullies is coming to present to us on Monday, November 20th at 6:00 at RHS Learning Commons. We are hoping for a big turnout to learn about ways to support ALL of our children from bullies. Please consider coming to the event. This is for adults only.**
- **SEPAC is selling tote bags and scarves. These great items are only \$20 each and money raised will support our programs. They make great holiday gifts. Please contact Enza Goodwin for more information. Also on COD website.**
- **Finally SEPAC will host our annual holiday party on Sunday, December 16th. More information to follow. We could use donations of all kinds such as plates, napkins, juice boxes, and packaged snacks.**

Item #5: CODA- (Commissions on Disabilities Alliance) Monthly Conference call Meeting on Wednesday November 7, 2018.

Mr. DeCicco mentioned his monthly call discussion with all CODs within in the region regarding new MOD commissioner. Different city and town commissions have been asked on voting if they would write letters in what they want in new commissioner. Mr. DeCicco asked for motion to sign on with the COD in region to write letter. Mr. Freni asked for some more clarification before a motion is made. Mr. Freni then made motion a motion to send a letter and the motion was 2nd my Robert Bent. Roll call was asked by Mr. DeCicco from the members present: Voting yes were Michele DeBellis, Robert Bent, Pauline Perno, Vice Chair Rick Freni and Chair Ralph DeCicco. Also voting yes via prior notification was Enza Goodwin and Albert Sheridan. Motion is passed. I letter will be sent with all members of our Commission listed on it.

Item #6: Old Business-

- **Continued Discussion and Ideas on COD Sub Committees and Duties:**
Mr. DeCicco asked to revisit this now that we have a full commission and to discuss at next meeting.
- **Automatic Door Openers at both City Hall and Legion Building: Mr. DeCicco received communications from city that money is appropriated for handicap ramp and possibly the door openers. Bids will go out.**

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

Mr. Freni spoke about accomplishments with Autism in his foundation. With a shortage of help at the high school level for autistic students I have spoken with Talia Mimmo the HS autism teacher. She is looking for vocational work dealing with social skills for the students. We decided on baking cupcakes and selling at the games. Boys and Girls basketball teams are on board. Mr. DeCicco mentioned that he spoke with Dan Luberto of Lubertos Pastry shop about taking the students to learn how to bake and sell them. He was very willing to help in any way that he could and said to just let him know when we had the program ready to go. He also spoke with Asst Superintendent Josh Vadala who is very excited about this opportunity. Looking to hopefully start sometime in December.

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

Resident Rocco Falzone spoke about lack of sidewalks and flooding issues on his street 55 Toscano Ave where he has lived for over 25 years. He feels inspectional services did not do their job as street is a mess. Side walk and retaining wall and foundation are collapsing due to flooding. Side walk was 48 inches wide and stated they build Caruso court up the street and the side walk was cut down to 27 inches. He has been working with city council since April 2018. The sidewalk is so small that people parking hit his retaining wall when opening their door. Mentioned how people are falling when exiting the car due to terrible road and sidewalk conditions. He would like everyone on the same page to work together. He met with Representative Vincent, Senator Boncore, and other state officials to tell his story. Stated no one can walk on the sidewalk, impossible for strollers, wheelchairs, and crutches. He also mentioned that he feels that his ward councilor and a councilor at large who lives in his neighborhood are helping people for sidewalks in other wards but not his. Mr. Falzone is very frustrated that nothing is getting done. Mr. DeCicco states that until all the infrastructure is done and funded this problem will exist. Unfortunately our Commission can only relay the message since it is not something that is in our control. Mr. DeCicco stated that when the sidewalk was being cut down many years ago it should have alerted everyone. Mr. Falzone continued with history on Toscano Ave regarding the cutting of the sidewalk and showing pictures of how it is impossible to walk on and the flooding of the road which locks people in their home. Mr. Freni voiced his concerns for Mr. Falzone stating something needs to be done immediately to fix this flooding and sidewalk issue.

Item #9: Next Steps

Mr. DeCicco spoke about final Art Inclusion class and that a post funding report needs to be completed before the end of the year. Also now that we have a full commission we will need to work on subcommittee's discussions and agenda for next month.

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.

Mr. DeCicco wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Asked for motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn: Robert Bent makes motion and Michelle DeBellis 2nds. Meeting adjourned.

Adjournment- Next Meeting will be Tuesday December 11, 2018 at 6:00 PM.