



CITY OF REVERE - COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Meeting Agenda Notes – January 14, 2025 @ 6:00 PM

Ralph DeCicco - Chair Pauline Perno - Vice Chair

Email: disabilities@revere.org Phone: 781-286-8267

Meeting Will Broadcast Live Via Zoom, Revere TV & Revere TV YouTube Channel

Please click the link below to join the webinar

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88270277148>

Or Telephone: US: +1 929 205 6099

Webinar ID 882 7027 7148

Meeting Replay: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YkyXePYozMQ&list=PLIYqBh7a_8bz_jaLbb_Lgl-ee_7wqGYDE&index=78

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Members Present: Ralph DeCicco, Pauline Perno, Jason Barrone, Mario Grimanis, Ellie Vargas, Annmarie Fiore

Item #1: Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes from December 10, 2024 - Made by Jason Barrone & Second by Mario Grimanis.

Item #2: Guest Speaker: None

Item #3: Updates/Next Steps from December 10, 2024 Meeting

- **Updates from Pauline & Annmarie regarding the calendar for future monthly guest speakers.**
- **Draft letter from Pauline (Tabled from December meeting)**
- **Annmarie Formal Plan for Music Therapy Program- Possibly include 3 preliminary workshops. COD wants to present a letter about a partnership with the Revere Parks and Rec Center. COD will fund this.**

Item #4: Discussion regarding the Community Music Center of Boston Proposal. As a Commission, we always seek programs we can implement in Revere to benefit children and young adults with disabilities.

Item #5: CODA (Commissions on Disabilities Alliance) – Meeting Wednesday, January 8, 2025

- **A COD Member from Acton had questions regarding emergency preparedness plans for communities, especially developments with residents with disabilities.**
- **Newburyport COD spoke about brick sidewalks and how the town is against removing them even though they cause difficulties for people with disabilities. They have the older style of brick and not the wire-cut type. Even wire-cut bricks need to be maintained. A member from the town of Newton mentioned that they have instituted and replaced brick sidewalks with stamped concrete that looks like brick. This is a better version than the older style of stamped concrete. It can be colored to look like any style needed.**
- **Various CODs discussed ride-share bike programs. The Newburyport Cod mentioned that they have adopted a new program that includes one adaptable bike. They have an RFP out now. The City of Boston member mentioned that they are part of the Blue Bikes ride-share program and also purchased an adaptive bike. The only issue they have with it is that it is not in use because of its size and docking needs. The Acton COD mentioned they have a bike share program as part of the town's Recreation center for people to rent.**

- **Newburyport COD mentioned a program that they are looking at called the Right-Hear, www.right-hear.com. Right-Hear is a program that provides talking signage so everyone can interpret and understand their surroundings in real-time. This application and program incorporates the use of a mobile device and installed beacons. The environment comes to life through audio descriptions delivered directly to a smartphone or tablet. Helping everyone, everywhere explore, navigate, and experience the world safely and independently. They want to see if this could be implemented on trails and parkland in their community.**

Item #6: Commission Members Late Items/Information

- **Chair DeCicco mentioned that Governor Healey signed S201, the Pharmaceutical Affordability Bill.**
- **Chair DeCicco Mentioned that Revere Rec Center contacted him about partnering on an Art Program they are looking to implement in which the COD will help fund for students and young adults with disabilities.**
- **The COD has helped the City of Revere purchase and install a new ADA podium in the Council Chambers. The COD could do this with funds established through Chapter 40, Section 22G of HP Violations collected.**
- **The COD has applied for the Save the Harbor/Save the Bay & The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Better Beaches Grant Program Application. This is the same grant we applied for and were awarded, which allowed us to have the All-Abilities Day out at Revere Beach in August 2024**
- **Commission member Jason Barone spoke about MassHealth's Yearly PCA Review process.**

Item #7: Residents' concerns/issues: None

Item #8: Next Steps:

- **Updates from Pauline & Annmarie regarding the calendar for future monthly guest speakers.**
- **Final Draft letter from Pauline regarding crossing safety at the beach.**
- **Continued discussion from the January Meeting led by Annmarie on creating a Formal Plan for the Music Therapy Program**

Item #9: Reminder –

The Commission on Disabilities office number is 781-286-8267. Residents can also call Revere 311 directly and speak to their staff Monday through Friday. They will answer most questions, but if they cannot or if you want to talk to our department directly, ask to be transferred to the Disability office. Please leave a detailed message, and someone will get back to you soon.

As always, don't hesitate to contact us if you want something discussed or added to our monthly meeting agenda. You can also let us know if you want to speak about any issue or concern. The Commission is here to help and assist all the disabled residents and families of Revere.

Motion to Adjourn: - Made by Jason Barrone & Second by Ellie Vargas.

Next Meeting: (Via Zoom) will be on Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM

"Spanish interpretation is available upon request, 48 business hours in advance. Please contact Asmaa Abou-Fouda at translation@revere.org, 781-286-8100 ext. 20215."

"Se ofrece interpretación al español con previa solicitud, con 48 horas laborables de anticipación. Póngase en contacto con Asmaa Abou-Fouda al translation@revere.org, 781-286-8100 ext. 20215"