

May 23rd, 2018 Fitchburg Disability Commission Monthly Meeting
Located at the Garden Room, Fitchburg Public Library
Commission Members:

Jeffrey Wolfgang	Co-Chair	Present
Bill Tolos	Co-Chair	Present
Mary Ann Guichard		Present
Sharon Tardiff		Present
Deanna Tardiff		Present
Carolyn Quirk		Present
Kathy Hamelin	Absent	
Nick Carbone	Absent	
Doris Matte	Absent	

Item 1: Meeting commenced at 11:31am.

Disability Complaint:

Two residents of Fitchburg came to the Disability Commission to join the meeting and possibility find a solution to their problem that they are having with Wallace Towers located in Fitchburg MA. The members listened to the Residents and determined that the Disability Commission would be in contact with the board members that oversee the Wallace Towers that have to do with accessibility for residents that live there, by asking if Wallace Towers would like the Fitchburg Disability Commissions help in resolving the matter(s). The Residents thanked the Commission for their help.

Minutes Announcements/Notices/Events: Disability Minutes were voted on & accepted for the months of September of 2017 and April of 2018.

Advanced Community Access Monitor Training was held on May 16, 2018 at the Leominster Veterans Center members from the Fitchburg Disability Commission attended and they were Bill Tolos, Jeffrey Wolfgang and Carolyn Quirk. All three will be receiving certificates for attending and passing Advanced CAM.

All Disability Commission Members are invited to the regional meeting which will take place on Wednesday, June 6, 2018 from 11:00am to 2:00pm at the Community Center (Building 19) of Golden Heights, Located at 10 Golden Heights in Webster, MA.

Guich announced that she is still accepting/collecting bottle lids/tops to be turned in for people, to help supplement the cost of Cancer Treatment(s).

All Disability members were reminded to add new member(s) to their group email and to remove non-current members.

All Disability members are being asked if they would like to participate in Civic Days and the 4th of July parade, the commission is looking for members to either work the table at Civic Days or participate in the 4th of July parade by holding the disability banner. This will be discussed at the June meeting. Sharon will request/reserve a table for civic days.

Disability Awareness Event Follow-up: The date for the next Disability event was announced it is March 27th, 2019 and that falls on a Wednesday, it was decided to hold the event at the same location which is Monty Tech, which is a good, bright location with lots of parking and accessibly, start time changed to 4:30pm and will run to 6:30pm some type of food/snacks, will be provided by the Monty Tech Students, will ask if they can set up their snack bar and serve brownie/cookies, need more coverage of the event, flyers, articles, and everyone would like to see more people attend the upcoming event.

New members for the Commission

The Commission panel is now Eleven members so the Disability Commission is looking for new members to fill the 2 vacant slots.

Old Business:

Several complaints have been received concerning the weight of the doors in several businesses located in Fitchburg, Bill and Guich will go and conduct site visits and discuss their findings at the next meeting.

Curb cuts; Guich had an incident and dumped her scooter in front of Christ Church on Main Street the curb was missing a big piece of concrete, DPW will be notified of the incident and the location for repair.

Workers Credit Union no new updates.

It was asked that all Commission Members bring in all paperwork involving/pertaining to the Disability Commission to the next Meeting held in May so that it will stored/filed in one central location.

Discussion on Meeting Time change for the Disability Commission has been tabled for now.

New Business:

Discussed the purchase of a tablet or iPad for the Commission when going out on Site Visits for documentation

- The Fitchburg IT Department will provide the Commission with an I-Pad.

Bill will be attending the upcoming B.F.Brown – Artist working/living space meeting.

Bill sent a letter to the Leominster Disability Commission concerning the Handicap parking spaces at the; Mall at Whitney Field, Ramsey's and Reliant medical group. Bill has concerns that the Handicap spaces are not specified with the correct signage.

Guich attended the MART Meeting held on May 22, 2018 at the main office of MART. Compliance with ADA issues were discussed, concerning bus routes and issues with the van service.

The Accessible Art Studio Painting Class will be holding another event which is planned for late September at The ARC of Opportunity. Will have a date for the event at our next meeting.

Motion to adjourn, meeting at 1:00pm. The next meeting will be held on June 13th at 10:00am, Garden Room, Fitchburg Public Library.