

2022 DEC 19 AM 11:02

Wilmington Commission on Disabilities Meeting Minutes

TOWN OF WILMINGTON, MA

October 4th, 2022

Present at Meeting: Dr. Dee P. Genetti, Chairperson, Selectmen Gary DePalma, Robert Oliveri, and Carol Hilbinger, Interpreter

I. This meeting was called to order at 6:48 PM by Dr. Dee Genetti (due to lateness of the Interpreter)

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Review of Previous Minutes: Robert Oliveri motioned to accept the Minutes of 8-24, 2022, seconded by Carol Hilbinger. Selectmen Gary DePalma abstained from this vote as he was absent from that meeting. It was voted to accept the minutes.

Dr. Genetti informed the group that recording secretary Thomas Donahue would not be present for the meeting. Dr. Genetti clarified that she was stating members' names when speaking, as the session was being recorded for later transcription.

IV. Commission correspondences or inquiries

Dr. Genetti confirmed with Carol Hilbinger that there was no new correspondence to address.

V. Topics for discussion

a. Follow-up on MOD emergency water pickup requirements: Dr. Genetti stated that she has been trying to get ahold of George Hooper, ADA Coordinator regarding this and the questions from Marblehead regarding our ADA's position.

b. 3 Openings on the Board: Dr. Genetti introduced Robert Hayes of the Wilmington Apple. Mr. Hayes expressed his interest in the Wilmington Commission on Disabilities and his desire to spotlight the commission's search for new members. Mr. Hayes informed Dr. Genetti that he will call her this week for more detailed information regarding the requirements to join the commission.

Dr. Genetti entertained the item for discussion. She stated that the administrator of the town manager, Beverly Dalton, had assisted with putting an ad on the town website. She informed the Board that there was an applicant. Dr. Genetti explained that the Board needs a majority of people with disabilities. She also informed that the group needs a parent of someone with a disability. Dr. Genetti noted that the

group would search for members with an understanding and knowledge of disability requirements and needs. Dr. Genetti stated that she has taken commissioners in the past to a training event to obtain a certification from the state to become a community access monitor.

Mr. Hayes suggested reaching out to the Special Education Parent Advisory Council to fulfill the Board's need for a parent or immediate family member with disabilities.

Next discussed was the need for a one-page flier to attract new members. Dr. Genetti mentioned that she would like to provide a flier to the Special Education Parent Advisory Counsel. Dr. Genetti also suggested posting fliers at the library and grocery stores. Mr. DePalma mentioned the number of Medical Facilities and the possibility of placing fliers there. Carol Hilbinger recommended businesses such as Starbucks. Mr. DePalma suggested that fliers be handed out at the Special Town Meeting.

Dr. Genetti asked the group to email her any ideas or information they would like to be added to the proposed flier. Carol Hilbinger volunteered to work on the flier. Dr. Genetti stated that she would gather the information needed for the flier and forward it to Carol. The group decided that there would be two fliers, one informing the community about who the WCOD is and what they do, the other for recruiting new members.

c. Update on Website Discussion: Dr. Genetti and Carol Hilbinger discussed the composition of the website page. Dr. Genetti voiced her concerns to Carol about using acronyms. Dr. Genetti asked for clarification between what was to be added to the website and what would be done for developing a Facebook. Dr. Genetti asked the Board members to compile comparisons of other websites and postings of commissions for the next meeting.

d. Survey: Dr. Genetti complimented the draft of the survey completed by Carol Harbinger. Dr. Genetti requested that a question of the use of technology for mobility disparities be added to the survey in addition to the question of the use of technology for communication-based needs. Dr. Genetti also asked that questions regarding service animals be added to the survey; the access/use of open space within the community; access to voting; and access to mental health counseling. Carol Hilbinger was asked to send the updated survey to be sent to Dr. Genetti and Robert Oliveri.

VI. New Project Ideas

Carol Hilbinger brought up the library's upcoming Welcome to Wilmington event. The Commission thinks it is a good idea for us to attend and present ourselves at this event. Carol Hilbinger volunteered to contact the library (Tina Stewart, Director) regarding the Wilmington Commission on Disabilities attendance. Dr. Genetti asked the group for everyone's availability to attend the library event. Carol Hilbinger said she will definitely be able to attend to represent us.

VII. Open for discussion

Robert Oliveri asked if a letter had been sent to Arianna Faro in response to her resignation letter. Dr. Genetti informed the group that she sent a letter to Arianna Faro as well as Jeff Hull.

Carol Hilbinger pointed out that the agenda contained the wrong address for the town hall in the header. It was asked that recording secretary Thomas Donahue correct this.

VIII. Next meeting date: 12-14-22 at 6:30.

IX. Adjourn Meeting: Carol Hilbinger motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Robert Oliveri and voted upon unanimously; meeting was adjourned at 7:33PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Thomas Donahue



