



City of Worcester
Department of Health and Human Services
Disabilities Division

James G. Gardiner, Acting Commissioner
Health and Human Services

Lawrence M. Raymond
Director, Disabilities

City of Worcester
Commission on Disability

Type of Meeting: Regular
Date and Time Convened: February 11, 2009, 4:14 PM
Place Where Convened: City Hall, Levi Lincoln Jr. Chamber
Members Present: Rachel Brown, Dawn Clark, Grace Clark, John Cronin, Jacqueline Norton, Joseph Sinasky
Associates Absent: Jill Swerzenski
Staff Present: Michael Galvin, Larry Raymond
Public Present: Mary Healey, Mike Kennedy, Megan Webber

1. Call to Order and Introductions. Meeting was called to order at 4:14 PM.
2. Acceptance of Minutes. Motion to accept minutes for January by Rachel Brown, second by John Cronin.
3. Communications and Reports.
 - a. Chairperson's Report.
 - i. Dawn received a letter from the Manager stating that the Commission's concerns regarding the office move will be addressed.
 - b. Director's Report.
 - i. Larry stated that he has communicated to Commissioner Gardiner about various issues ranging from the ice storm to audible crossing signals and the responses from various departments. He is waiting to hear back from Mr. Gardiner.
 - ii. Larry addressed the school dept. transition plan and suggested that the plan would be too large to copy and the Commission should perhaps ask the school dept. to make the plan available for a hands on

viewing. Dawn is at least interested in schools that serve as emergency shelters.

- iii. A brief discussion involved snow removal complaints and Larry stated that DPW customer service is handling complaints.
 - iv. Citizen Advisory Council will be interviewing and Larry encouraged members to recruit candidates.
 - v. Federal Square contract has been issued for the consultant. A plan will be coming to the Commission for presentation and comment.
 - vi. Election Commission personnel advised they have concerns about funding for the machines since the State will no longer pay. They are also modifying precinct setups and moving a location or two in response to feedback from the last election. Also they offered to have a disability sensitivity component to the poll worker training.
 - vii. Daphne Philips' resignation was received and the Commission members expressed regret that she could not continue to serve.
4. Transition Plan, Accessibility, and Access Board Issues.
- a. General discussion regarding updates to the Transition Plan.
 - b. Sidewalks, Curb Cuts, and Chirpers. Nothing to report.
 - c. HP Parking Fines. Larry reported there were 100 parking citations and two ramp violations issued.
 - d. Access Board. Mike Kennedy's AAB report was distributed. There was no discussion.
5. Transportation and TPAG
- a. Larry reported TPAG has resumed monthly meetings and he spoke about some operational and budget issues.
 - b. Buses and Para-transit. Trip statistics were briefly discussed.
 - c. Taxicab Statistics. Nothing available this month.
6. Emergency Preparedness
- a. Dawn reported that the State task force wants to meet with the Governor. And efforts are continuing for developing a statewide registry.
 - b. Local Registry.
7. Old Business

- a. UMASS Valet Parking. Rachel Brown, Mike Kennedy and Mike Galvin met with officials at UMASS to discuss parking and facility signage. It was a mutually informative discussion and a report will be forwarded to UMASS describing the issues and remedies discussed.
8. New Business.
- a. Mary Healey offered a letter for consideration on advising the Manager and Council what the position of the disability community is relating to budget cuts and what is felt should be maintained. The Commission endorsed the letter.
 - b. Dawn Clark had a meeting with some individuals regarding transportation issues.
9. Announcements and Adjournment.
- a. Employment statistics for persons with disabilities were distributed.
 - b. Larry announced Go Packs will be distributed at the Library on April 1 from 11 AM to 1 PM.
 - c. Motion to adjourn at 5:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael W Galvin
Disability/ Accessibility Specialist