



Karen Taylor, Director
Office of Equity &
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CITY OF HARTFORD

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES

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Janet Wallans, Chair
Kenneth Cayones
Katherine Paccelle
Catherine Spera
Debra St. Germain, Vice Chair
Cheryl Zeiner, Secretary

HARTFORD COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES
MEETING MINUTES
5:30 PM. - 7:00 P.M.
December 1, 2021

This is a ZOOM Meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85143020989?pwd=UXFEL0wrWUNGTko0cFRhMnJWK2ptQT09>
(Highlight blue link, then right click on link to open)

Meeting ID: 851 4302 0989

Passcode: 885493

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,85143020989#,,,,*885493# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kb9N5Hau0U>

PRESENT: Janet Wallans, Chair; Debra St. Germain, CO-Chair; Cheryl Zeiner, Secretary.
Cathy Spera; Kenneth Cayones

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Kate Pacelle

STAFF: Kim Taylor

The meeting was called to order by Janet at 5:32PM.

The minutes of the November meeting were reviewed. Debra made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Cathy seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

PARKVILLE MARKETPLACE UPDATE:

- Debra reviewed a letter she sent to Mr. Mouta, owner of Parkville Marketplace regarding accessibility issues pertaining to their renovations. The response received from Mr. Mouta was less than adequate.
- Debra has also been in contact with Cat. Brian Kennedy of the HFD REGARDING THIS ISSUE. He is extremely interested in what HCDI might be able to do not only with this issue but others as well in Hartford. He has requested to attend our January meeting. Kim will send him an invitation.
- Kim also suggested Debra contact the Office of License and Inspection which she will do following our meeting with Capt. Kennedy.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Cheryl sent 4 Resource Pamphlets from Amplify Inc with many services available to residents who have disabilities to Janice Castle with the hope that some might be included in the booklet that this office prints every year. As we had not heard, Cheryl made a follow up email contact to see if they had been able to use any of the information. We also asked if they might be able to help with identifying residents who have disabilities. Cheryl was quite disappointed to learn Janice could not remember getting the pamphlets and their resource booklet has already been printed. She also said that we should contact the Hartford Health Dept to help identify residents who may have disabilities.

COMMISSION ON AGING COLLABORATION:

- Efforts to try and work together on shared concerns with COA and HCDI have been stymied because of COVID and formality of two commissions working together on a shared cause, however, Cheryl will try to contact Leslie Manselle again to see if we can reactivate our efforts.

SEXUAL ABUSE AND DISABILITIES MEETING/DRCT(ZOOM)

- Debra attended the virtual meeting sponsored by DRCT today focusing of sexual abuse and disability on this day sponsored by DRCT.
- Persons with disabilities are 3 times more likely to be sexually abused
- Individuals with intellectual disabilities and/or mental health concerns are 71% more likely to be exposed to human trafficking. Isolation and preconceived beliefs are the main causes. Title II of ADA has attempted to address this
- DRCT is requesting specific situations be reported to them so that they can be addressed immediately. They are collaborating with other agencies and organizations to bring the issues to the forefront
- Discussion ensued regarding reasons behind behavior and viable solutions.
- Debra suggested sending a letter to Ex. Director Deborah Dorfman of DRCT thanking her for the invitation to this forum. Janet will send the letter to her. Kim already sent an email to Mike Wilby, thanking him for keeping us in the loop.

NEW BUSINESS:

GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR:

- **Make the Commission more visible**
- **Restart all commission regular meetings**
- **Explore ways to identify residents in Hartford who identify as having a disability**
- **Collaborations with other commissions**

The next meeting is January 5, 2022

Ken made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cheryl seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 6:26PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Zeiner, Secretary