

**MEETING AGENDA
COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
ZOOM REMOTE MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2024 - 6:30 P.M.**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Public Participation**
- 3. Approval of Minutes –October 19, 2023**
- 4. Introduction of Teresa Kristoff, MA, Assistant Director of Human Services**
- 5. Update in ADA Sidewalks on Tolland Green and Other Accessibility Issues in Town**
- 6. Goals for 2024**
- 7. Survey Update**
- 8. Town Council Liaison**
- 9. Staff Liaison**
- 10. Future Public Presentations**
- 11. Public Participation**
- 12. Adjournment**

Topic: COPWD Meeting

Time: Jan 18, 2024 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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MEETING MINTUES
COMMISSION ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
ZOOM REMOTE MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.

1. Call to Order 6:34 p.m. by Susan Lucek (Chair).

Present: Susan Lucek, Aaron Weintraub, Ron Freedman, Julie Burns, Robin Lateer
Others Present: Colleen Yudichak, Beverly Bellody,

2. Public Participation: None

3. Approval of Minutes –September 21, 2023 Moved by Aaron Weintraub, Seconded by Julie Burns

4. Approval of 2024 Meeting Schedule Moved by Julie Burns, Seconded by Aaron Weintraub, unanimous approval.

5. Update in ADA Sidewalks on Tolland Green: A formal complaint has been filed by the Historic Society, French-Canadian Genealogical Society, and Red and White. The project is on hold pending litigation. There is concern that the delay will cause a loss of outside funding. The town manager has expressed support for the project. Individuals can fill out an ADA compliance complaint with the CT US Dept of Justice.

6. Debrief on Scarecrow Contest and Harvest Fair: Ron Freedman and Randa Utter and Susan Lucek were there early for the morning and set up. Ron reports that there was not a lot of foot traffic at the Commission table. Several people took surveys which will be returned to Human Services in the town hall. Julie Burns suggested for next year's display a scarecrow that educates about disabilities beyond the need for wheelchairs etc. Commission brainstormed several ideas for next year. Julie Burns asked about the possibility of writing a newsletter for the Commissions website to educate about resources for lowering barriers for people with disabilities.

7. Progress on Survey: Surveys were printed out and distributed at the harvest festival. Robin and Julie will get some to the unified sports groups in town as well as best buddies etc. Beverly Bellody will distribute it to the senior center. Commissioners discussed the use of Survey Monkey. Susan suggested using the service to make a link that can be distributed by commission members rather than requiring a town website.

8. Town Council Liaison: Colleen Yudichak shared gratitude for the commission and hopes to continue to serve.

9. Staff Liaison: Beverly Bellody shared that the department is still down a full time position but interviewing. She gave a reminder to spread the word about signing up for heating assistance and other entitlements programs.

10. Future Public Presentations: Susan Lucek spoke about Employment Services for People with Disabilities at the convention center that she went to.

The fold who put on the conference will be willing to talk about customizable employment. Susan notes that many other well resourced organizations are putting on presentations that we could promote rather than organize. David O'Rourke is willing to return to update on HVCC.

11. Public Participation: None

12. Future Agenda:

- Survey follow-up
- Continue discussion of vision for outreach
- Schedule meeting with new town council

13. Adjournment: Moved by Ron Freeman, seconded by Julie Burns

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