



City of Danbury Commission for Persons with disAbilities
155 Deer Hill Avenue, Danbury, CT 06810

Monthly Meeting Minutes
March 08, 2022 - 6:30pm

Meeting remotely due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Conference Call: (call-in number: 605-562-8400 Access Code: 4775141)

Please note: If you experience a busy signal or have trouble getting into the conference line keep trying as these conference lines do encounter overload due to the meeting face to face restrictions. John Gentile will setup a ZOOM meeting but the free ZOOM account only allows for 45 minute use time with 3 or more attendees.

Attendance: John Gentile (Chairman), Rose Marie Bouclier, Joanne LaPorta, John Neumuller, Frances Ryan,

Excused: Chad Sinanian Quentin Hughes, Frank Reed

Guest: Isabel Domer

- John Gentile: Welcome & Introduction (Time & Date) 6:36 PM 03/08/22
Motion to accept the Minutes of the 02/08/22 meeting, Joanne L – Motion, Rose Marie – 2nd, All Yea
- Phone Log: No phone messages this month, sent announcement to Elisa at City Hall
- New Business, Announcements, Updates:
 - 1) Commissioners – Update – Chad will be celebrating his Birthday on Saturday, April 2nd
Spoke with Rose Marie thought if we could stop by at St. John Paul Rehab. Ctr. and wish him a Happy Birthday. I said I will follow up with the Ctr. For the OK and send an email to the Commissioners as the day gets closer.
Reached out to Quentin but he hasn't replied?
Jeff is still not recovered well and is still in therapy from what I have seen on Facebook
Frank is still not feeling well lost sight in one eye, not getting the defibrillator
apparently the recovery is problematic
 - 2) Update on COVID restrictions – Updates Improving lifted on most areas except Transportation
 - 3) Follow up on Zoom Account – John N will get back to me
 - 4) HART Public Hearing this Month https://www.hartransit.com/public_hearings
Link sent to the commissioners if interested to attend
 - 5) Email to Commission (Attached)
- Seeking One Regular & Three alternates:
- Social media report: Jeff Offered to take Over Social Media Page? Discussion

Facebook Facebook.com/DanburyC4PWD Likes: 222 Follows: 229 (as of 6/9/2020)

Twitter Twitter.com/DanburyC4PWD 353 followers (as of 6/9/2020)

- On Demand Transportation:
 - kept as an open item
- John/All: Open Discussion John N spoke about the Still River Greenery walking trail in Brookfield great for getting out and exercise. John N also spoke on his case with the Brookfield YMCA in now with the State AG's Office
Isabel attended the Able Act Webinar that was sent out
John N received information from Stacy Brusca Program Community Coordinator at Nuvaince asking if anyone needed assistance her number is 203-739-6338.
(Transportation, Health Care, food assistance etc.)

Meeting Adjourned 7:02 Motion John N 2nd Fran R, All Yea

- Next Meeting scheduled for April 12, 2022, 6:30 PM

(No Meetings Scheduled during July and August)

We work to put the "A" in ability - the Commission has many goals including focusing on the Abilities of those with disAbilities. The Commission was established to advise the Mayor and the Common Council of the needs of persons with disAbilities within the community with relation to housing, economics, employment, transportation, health, recreation and other matters. The Commission was formed by Sec. 2-56.13 of the City of Danbury Code of Ordinances. The City of Danbury Commission for Persons with disAbilities meets on the second Tuesday of each month, at Danbury City Hall, at 6:30pm. We do not meet in July and August.

Maggie,

Thanks for your interest in the Danbury Commission for Persons with disAbilities, I'll answer your 2nd question first. We do not run community events, although we should, we act strictly in an advisory and referral capacity. On the Social Media question, we did for quite some time use our Social Media, Facebook etc. but our Commissioner who was taking care of Social Media moved out of State and we are trying to get the program active again. All of our Commissioners are volunteers and taking on another job sometimes becomes difficult.

If you need more information or clarification please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Thanks,
John Gentile
914-260-8375 cell

In a message dated 3/22/2022 12:07:54 PM Eastern Standard Time, cullenm2@mail.sacredheart.edu writes:

Hi John!

We have reviewed your document thank you so much it was a great help. We do have two follow up questions with more specifics! We were wondering if you actively use your facebook and what you post to it. Lastly, we are very curious to know if you run community events and what they entail.

Thank you so much again!

Best,
Maggie

From: jmgstr1550@aol.com <jmgstr1550@aol.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 3:34 PM

To: Cullen, Maggie A. <cullenm2@mail.sacredheart.edu>

Subject: Re: Commission on Disability

Maggie,

You are welcome.

John

In a message dated 3/1/2022 3:33:31 PM Eastern Standard Time, cullenm2@mail.sacredheart.edu writes:

Great thank you so much for this information and your timely response!

I will reach out with any further questions in the upcoming days!

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From: jmgrs1550@aol.com <jmgrs1550@aol.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 1, 2022 3:11:07 PM

To: Cullen, Maggie A. <cullenm2@mail.sacredheart.edu>

Cc: Fingerhut, Hannah N. <fingerhuth@mail.sacredheart.edu>; Cordova, Pauline <cordovap@mail.sacredheart.edu>; Bachstadt, Emily K. <bachstadte@mail.sacredheart.edu>

Subject: Re: Commission on Disability

Maggie,

It is difficult for me to answer your questions as asked because of the way the Commission is formed. I'm attaching a report to the Ad-Hoc City Council Committee which may help in answering your questions.

Let me know if it was helpful and if that is what you were looking for? If not you can always call my cell and I will be happy to speak with you.

Thank You,
John Gentile, Chair
Commission for Persons with disabilities
City of Danbury, CT
914-260-8375 cell

In a message dated 3/1/2022 10:32:19 AM Eastern Standard Time, cullenm2@mail.sacredheart.edu writes:

Hi John,

My name is Maggie, and I am currently an occupational therapy student at Sacred Heart University. Me and my team members Emily, Pauline and Hannah are assisting Fairfield County in improving their disability commission to help more disabled members in the community. On Danbury's website, we see that you are the contact for Danbury's commission for disabilities! We are hoping you could answer some of the questions below on what you found beneficial for your commission!

What did you find most successful while running the commission for disability?

1. What was the best way for you to contact the members?
2. What kind of events did you run to benefit the community?
3. Have you received any feedback from the community on how to improve your commission?

Thank you so much for your time! We really appreciate it and look forward to your response!

Best,
Maggie Cullen