



Danbury Commission for Persons With disAbilities

155 Deer Hill Avenue, Danbury, CT 06810

John M. Gentile, Chair
(203) 796-8010

Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2011

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm.

1. Present:

Members: Frank Reed (acting chair), Rose Marie Bouclier, Paul Kachevsky, Joanne LaPorta, Bill Lewis, John Neumuller, Frances Ryan

Absent:

Members: John Gentile, Karen Bogartz, Roberto Perez, Chad Sinanian

2. June 14, 2011 minutes pending

3. Phone log – Report postponed until next month

4. Frank Reed announced that he has been elected to chair the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities

5. Frank Reed distributed the Danbury On-Demand Transportation Study which was prepared for the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities by HARTransit. According to ConnDOT, same day on-demand transportation is defined as taxi service. The study concluded the best and most cost-effective way to address the concerns of the Council is by enhancement of existing privately operated taxi services. The service enhancements recommended are:

- a. A taxi voucher program
- b. Training for taxi drivers – sensitivity, passenger assistance, customer service, and operator responsibilities per the ADA guidelines
- c. Accessible taxi cabs
- d. Enhanced SweetHART Service

Frank Reed will deliver a copy of this report to the Mayor's office.

6. Open discussion:

- a. Hurricane Irene power outage effects for persons with disAbilities – the discussion focused on the difficulties experienced by people who rely on battery powered mobility devices including prosthetic appliances



Danbury Commission for Persons With disAbilities

155 Deer Hill Avenue, Danbury, CT 06810

John M. Gentile, Chair
(203) 796-8010

Meeting Minutes September 13, 2011

- b. Considered asking the Common Council to form an ad hoc committee to discuss the effects of the power outage
 - c. John Neumuller informed the Commission that he is working with Representative Joseph Taborsak to have photo ids included on parking stickers for persons with disabilities
8. Next meeting will be on October 11th
9. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Frances Ryan, Secretary

Attest,
John Gentile, Chairman