



Danbury Commission for Persons With disAbilities

155 Deer Hill Avenue, Danbury, CT 06810

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

Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2012

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm.

1. Present: John Gentile, Rose Marie Bouclier, Joanne LaPorta, John Neumuller, Frances Ryan
Absent: Paul Kachevsky, Bill Lewis, Roberto Perez, Frank Reed, Chad Sinanian
Guests: John Gentile, Jr., Brendan and Shirley Sniffin
2. Reviewed and accepted May 8th minutes
3. Phone log – 2 calls
 - a. Joseph – Asked what the Commission does. He will call back if needed.
 - b. Thomas – looking for mental health advocate
4. HART – On Demand Transportation Update: Para Transit meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2012 at 10:00 am in the HART building
5. 2011 Recognition Award: John will contact Paul Kachevsky to arrange the Carousel at the Mall award presentation in October
6. Discussion concerning the Danbury Police Department's invitation to develop a presentation for officers attending a regional training in 2012. Plan to have a subcommittee meet during the summer to discuss options.
7. Open discussion:
 - a. John Gentile – Invited Teresa Wiblishauser, a social worker, to attend a Commission meeting and consider joining the Commission as an Alternate
 - b. John Neumuller – Stew Lenard's shopping area will be adding a bank. John requested during the Planning Commission Meeting to add an additional handicap parking space
 - c. John Neumuller – point out there would be a problem for a person using a wheelchair to exit City Hall at the end of the night



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- d. John Gentile – informed the Commission that Chad Sinanian will be awarded the Advocate of the Year Award June 19, 2012 at the Cartus Building, 48 Apple Ridge Rd, Danbury, CT at 6:00 pm. Everyone was invited to the award presentation.
- e. Brendan and Shirley Sniffin addressed the Commission concerning recent legislation in Hartford concerning collective bargaining rights for daycare and home care workers. They explained the Home and Community Based Services Waivers program gives families four choices for the care of persons with disabilities. The first is Self Direct. This option allows the consumer to decide how much to pay the employees and what benefits, (e.g. health insurance). Second, Agency with Choice is an agency that agrees to hire the individual you choose to provide services for the client. Third, a Vendor Agency is a traditional provider that is the employer of the individuals that will provide services. The fourth choice is a combination of the previous three.

8. Next meeting will be September 11, 2012

9. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Frances Ryan, Secretary

Attest,
John Gentile, Chairman