



# Danbury Commission for Persons With disAbilities

155 Deer Hill Avenue, Danbury, CT 06810

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

## Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2012

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm.

1. Present: John Gentile, Rose Marie Bouclier, Paul Kachevsky, Joanne LaPorta, Bill Lewis, John Neumuller, Frank Reed, Frances Ryan  
Absent: Roberto Perez, Chad Sinanian  
Guests: John Gentile, Jr.
2. Did not review October 9<sup>th</sup> minutes
3. Phone log – 2 calls
  - a. Joseph Getz – asked for information
  - b. Woman from Waterbury Hospital – Asked who the Danbury ADA Compliance Officer was. However, she did not leave a contact phone number.
4. On Demand Transportation Update: John Gentile requested Commissioners input concerning On Demand Transportation. Rick Shriner, from HART, attended the October Commission meeting. Mr. Shriner explained why the On Demand Transportation did not fit the HART system. He thought the On Demand system would work better with a cab service. John Gentile discussed setting up a meeting with WeCAHR and Ability Beyond Disability to develop a plan to address the situation and the best way to go forward.
5. 2011 Recognition Award: John will reschedule a meeting with the Carousel at the Mall management due to storm Sandy.
6. Handouts:
  - a. OPA eAlert – The Disability Funders Network (DFN) Rapid Response Fund is being activated to help nonprofit organizations meet the immediate and long-term needs of people with disabilities in North Eastern regions impacted by Storm Sandy. The DFN Rapid Response Fund will offer mini-grants to 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organizations to meet specific needs such as transportation, shelter, medication, medical equipment and assistive technology for people with disabilities.



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- b. Elanah Sherman from the State Office of Protection and Advocacy, 60-B Weston St., Hartford, CT 06120 has a 2012 Election Day Voting Accessibility Questionnaire to help improve the experience of persons with disabilities at the polls.
- c. Connecticut Association for Community Transportation (CACT) will be holding a workshop, Mobility Management & New Freedoms: Optimizing Your Funds, on Thursday, November 29, 2012, 1:30 pm, at the Greater Hartford Transit District, 1 Union Pl – Union Station, Hartford, CT, to discuss what cities and organizations are doing in CT to promote mobility choice and to make a difference for citizens who need more choice. To register contact Mary Tomolonius (860) 693-0368, [Mary.cact@yahoo.com](mailto:Mary.cact@yahoo.com)

The panelists:

- i. Margaret Mixon – Regional Mobility Manager for the Southwest Region, The Kennedy Center, Inc
  - ii. Alan Naudus – Operations Manager, Greater New Haven Transit District
  - iii. Lisa Rivers – Transportation Supervising Planner, CT Department of Transportation
  - iv. John Roode III – Executive Director, Eastern CT Transportation Consortium
  - v. Moderator, Jonathan Rubell – Mobility Services Director, The Kennedy Center, Inc.
7. Open discussion:
- a. John Gentile – Matt Cassavechia, EMT Director, set up an Emergency Shelter at Danbury Hospital during Storm Sandy

8. Next meeting will be December 11, 2012

9. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Frances Ryan, Secretary

Attest,  
John Gentile, Chairman