

City of Danbury, Connecticut

Commission on Persons with disAbilities

Minutes

March 13, 2007

Attendees: John Gentile, John Gentile Jr., Chad Sinnian, Frank Reed, Frances Ryan

Agenda:

1. Welcome: John Gentile
 2. Open Discussion:
 3. Phone Log: John Gentile
 4. Next Meeting : April 10, 2007
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- 1) John opened the meeting. Frances Ryan volunteered to record meeting notes until more commission members join.
 - 2) Open Discussion
 - a) Chad Sinnian brought up for discussion an article in the Hartford Current, March 4th page 1, by Lynn Doan, "What Will Become of the Mary Woods?" He expressed his concern the use of the phrase "mentally retarded" was hurtful and degrading to persons with disabilities. Also, he explained that People First of Connecticut has been working hard to have the legislature pass bills that would use "respectful people-first language" when referring to persons with disAbilities.
 - b) Discussion of how we are going to attract new members onto the commission
 - i) John will contact Mike McLachlan to update the listing to include Frank Reed and Harold Saunders names on the city website.
 - c) Discussion of Danbury High School's Academy Program, which helps parents and students with disAbilities prepare the family for when the child graduates school.
 - 3) Phone Log – 5 phone calls
 - 4) Meeting adjourned by John Gentile at 7:30 pm. Next meeting will be April 10, 2007.