

Town of Windsor
Commission on Aging and Persons with Disabilities
Regular Meeting
Sept 1, 2020

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Amy Silliman-Avedisian, Marsha Brown, and Kathy Roby

Commissioners Excused: None

Commissioners Unexcused: None

Liaison Present: Rebecca Joyce excused

Also Present: N/A

Called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairperson Amy Silliman-Avedisian

Communication from Commissioners:

Chairperson Silliman Avedisian reported the following:

-Technically, Commissioner Avedisian's term has expired but, in accordance with the bylaws, she will remain in the position until a new Commissioner is appointed and approved. Commissioner Avedisian will be absent due to illness on 10/3/2020 but will return remotely for November meeting.

-Communication was received from the Senior Center: attached find the Senior Center Newsletter.

-Although the Governor has said the Senior Centers may open as of 9/1/2020, the Administration for the Senior Center in Windsor has not made a decision as to opening yet.

-A survey has been sent out to all members of the Center to determine general sentiment regarding attending indoor events/activities and the Liaison is tabulating the results; a report on the data will be forthcoming likely at the next meeting. It is estimated that 1/3 would return to indoor activities but the survey will provide data.

Commissioner Brown Reported the following:

-Requested an inquiry as to how many people are listed as members of this commission; is it possible there are names on the list who had resigned but were not removed?

-St of Ct (? Disability Council? Disability Alliance?) is offering on-line trainings on how Covid 19 is affecting this population; Commissioner will provide information on the links for this.

-Commissioner is also seeking information on a report that persons ventilator dependent who went to the hospital on their own ventilator were told they were not guaranteed to get it back on discharge.

Commissioner is also researching training/information on Access to Medications for Disabled Persons.

-Commissioner is also researching an Annual Candidates Night.

Commissioner Roby reported the following:

-A concern was expressed that our target population may be receiving incorrect or inaccurate information regarding "Absentee Ballots". Mail in Voting" (Process, time frame, security, etc.). Commissioner reported having researched this topic on the Secretary of State website and compiled the information with timelines. This has been written up as a Q&A format and is attached. The request was made to consider whether it could be sent out with the October newsletter, as a separate emailing, posted in the Center and any other public place that is allowed. It is noted that photos of the drop box were taken and can be attached, the ability to reach the slot was tested by this Commissioner seated in a vehicle (both driver/passenger seats) and determined it is reachable BUT NOT from a wheelchair on the road.

Communication from the Liaison: None received as Liaison was excused

Communication from the Public: None was received

Approval of the Minutes from the May 5, 2020 Meeting:

A motion to approve the minutes from the May 5, 2020 meeting was made by Commissioner Roby and seconded by Commissioner Brown. The motion passed 3/0/0.

Old Business:

Discussion of Open Positions: There are 4 open positions (2 Commissioners and 2 Alternates)

Draft Article for Publication: The article to increase awareness and try to recruit new members will be in the Windsor Journal this week. A request will be made to have Liaison Joyce obtain permission to and submit our article to the following places: the NCAAA, all church bulletins and bulletin Boards, Great Pond and the other new complexes (in their mail rooms, community rooms and complex managers to send out via group email), on line "NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR".

Cancellation/Postponement of Medication Management: This program has been cancelled/postponed due to the virus and the Commissioners agreed it should remain on hold until the virus is resolved.

Capital Improvement Request: Chairperson Avedisian submitted the CIP request to the Council.

Pedestrian Safety Windsor Center: Project on hold until spring at the earliest.

New Business

Appointment of new Chairperson: A motion was made by outgoing Chair Avedisian to appoint Commissioner Roby to be the new Chair. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown and approved 3/0/0.

Role of the Commission in Coronavirus Awareness:

-A special program was suggested to be run in early November (immediately after the election) in “Depression/Anxiety/Isolation” as a result of the “Stay Home/Stay Safe” likely extending thru the New Year. Commissioner Brown will reach out to the NCAAA to see if they have a resource for this program. Commissioner Roby would ask Liaison Joyce to inquire of the Town Social Worker for a resource speaker.

-A in “Depression/Anxiety/Isolation” as a 30-45 min webinar perhaps done by Jennifer Waldo -emphasizing practical tips on self-protection, keeping your home safe, car travel, HC Van travel, MD appts etc.

-A 15 min Webinar on how to prepare for and have a *TELEHEALTH VISIT* with your MD

-Flu Vaccine Information: Commissioner Avedisian will check with Jennifer Waldo regarding the town’s plans for a FLU Clinic, how we can help and how to get information out.

-Hand Hygiene education using the posters from WHO “Clean Hands Save Lives” Commissioner Avedisian will research these materials.

Current involvement of Town Council, Town Health Department, Senior Services, Caring Connection and relevant town policies and procedures:

- Commissioner Brown requested information from Liaison Joyce as to how the decision to re-open the center will be made and by whom? Commissioner Brown has requested a decision tree if that is possible.

Location of October Meeting: To be determined

Motion to Adjourn: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chairperson Silliman-Avedisian and seconded by Commissioner Roby. The motion passed 3/0/0.