



**City of Melrose Commission on Disability (MCOD)
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: August 14, 2024

Commissioners Present:

Garin Boyd
Alaine Breen
Gary Hale
Erin Heyneman
David Hoff
Margaret Sheets
Matthew Travers

1. Call to Order

Commission Chair Hoff called to order the regular meeting of the Commission on Disability at 7:01 PM.

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from the July 17, 2024 meeting was made by Commissioner Sheets and second by Commissioner Heyneman. Passed unanimously.

3. Public Participation

No members of the public requested to speak.

4. Presentation: Massachusetts Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC)

Three members of the DPPC provided a presentation on sexual abuse of people with disabilities, with slides. DPPC members were Trish Glover, Leigh Ann and Tiffany (peer support). Of note: the DPPC informed us of requirements when reporting sexual abuse and gave us an overview of work done by this DPPC. Information was given about peer support group (active group meeting).

5. State Events

MA CODA meeting (statewide group of commissions on disability) was not attended by Commissioners this month. The upcoming trainings from the MA Office on Disability were reviewed.

6. Disability Pride Event Update

The Disability Pride month events were reviewed. Great job for a fantastic Disability Pride Month!

7. School Interns

“Social media” will be dropped from the job title of high school interns. Junior Class intern is looking to return for her senior year. Would like to create new job description. Advisers will be Commissioners Boyd, Hale and Heyneman.

8. City Disability Policies

Commissioner Hale has drafted some language, and it is in the process of being reviewed.

9. Community Education Guide Update

Commissioner Hoff is finalizing edits and reported document will be ready soon.

10. Website

Commissioner Hoff and Boyd will meet to discuss.

11. Victorian Fair:

September 8th 11am -4pm. Commissioner Boyd will email volunteer signup sheet. Possibility of having Disability Scavenger Hunt was discussed.

12. Other Business:

- **SDM:** SMD foundation indicated they had a hearing impaired individual they are serving at their organization. The Commission has provided guidance on how to accommodate.
- **Crosswalks with audio signals spreadsheet shared from the city:** Commissioner Travers shared DPW information with Commission on crosswalks and audio signals.

13. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Sheets. Seconded by Commissioner Hale. Meeting adjourned.

Meeting minutes submitted by Garin Boyd, Commission Secretary.