City of Melrose Commission on Disability (MCOD)
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: September 11,, 2024

Commissioners Present:
Garin Boyd (Secretary)
Gary Hale
Erin Heyneman
David Hoff (Chair)
Margaret Sheets (Vice Chair)
Matthew Travers

1. **Call to Order**

Commission Chair Hoff called to order the regular meeting of the Commission on Disability at 7:02 PM.

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from the August 14th, 2024 meeting was made by Vice Chair Sheets and second by Commissioner Heyneman. Passed unanimously.

3. Public Participation

Meaghan M. was pleased with Disability Pride events and would like to discuss more in the future for next years event.

4. State Events

Commission Chair Hoff and Commissioner Hale attended September CODA meeting. Discussion revolved around grants.

5. **Victorian Fair Followup**

The Victorian Fair MCOD booth and scavenger hunt were a success!! Most active year ever engaging the community!

6. School Interns

Commissioners Hale, Heyneman and Boyd will connect with interns to book time to meet.

7. City Disability Policies

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

8. Community Education Guide Update

Commission Chair Hoff is finalizing edits and reported document will be moving to final draft. Would like to get pictures to add to the document.

9. SEPAC

Commission Chair Hoff has sent email to SEPAC to reestablish connection.

10. **Other Business:**

- **MBTA Transit Authority Board:** Commissioners Hale and Boyd will discuss. Mayor Jen has asked for Commissioners to consider joining.
- **Melrose Traffic Commission has replaced 4 Commissioners:** One Commissioner on the traffic commission does identify as having a visual disability.
- **Discussion with Lauren Fitzgibbons:** Life-long Melrose resident. Has created 5013c around social/dance activities at middle school/high school, Everybody Fitz. Creating a sensory safe space for kids who may be neurodivergent or sensory sensitive. Looking for potential support from commission
- **Chalk walk:** Follow Your Art is having a chalk walk! September 28th. Too late to sponsor a square this year, but commission may consider for next year.
- **Belham Family Cornhole Tournament:** October 26 starting at 12! Make sure to register your team or just register day of! $50 minimum donation per team.
- **Creative Alliance**: The Creative Alliance is ceasing it's efforts towards establishing a cultural district in Melrose, in alignment with city and state cessation of cultural district designation.

11. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Sheets. Seconded by Commissioner Hale. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Meeting minutes submitted by Garin Boyd, Commission Secretary.