



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY ISSUES

NOTICE OF MEETING

March 7th, 2022 | 7:00 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82752446614?pwd=K1l6dHU4YnRPdWNldW8zckFDYTc5dz09>

Consistent with the Governor's orders extending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law every effort will be made to allow the public to view and/or listen to the meeting in real time. Persons who wish to do so are invited to click on the following link <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82752446614?pwd=K1l6dHU4YnRPdWNldW8zckFDYTc5dz09>. If you do not have a camera or microphone on your computer you may use the following dial in number: 1-301-715-8592 Meeting ID 827 5244 6614 Passcode 230150. Please only use dial in or computer and not both as feedback will distort the meeting. This meeting will be audio and video recorded. In compliance with the Americans with Disability Act, this location is accessible to people with disabilities, Wakefield provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request. If you are a person with a disability and require information or materials in an alternate format, or if you require any other accommodation, please contact the Town's Disability Coordinator, William Renault-Town Engineer at 781-246-6308 as far in advance of the event as possible. Every effort will be made to grant your request. Advance notification will enable the Town to make reasonable arrangements to remove an accessibility barrier for you.

Call to Order Meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Marie Rej with 9 in attendance.

In attendance:

Marie Traniello Rej

Lorna Davidson-Connelly

Levonne Coughlin

Kate Staiti

Lois Benjamin

Darci Burns

Paula Thompson

Kristine Bardol

Janice Mirabassi

Members not in attendance:

Bella Schwartzberg

Pledge Allegiance Pledge was stated by the committee.

Mission Statement – “Our mission is to address the needs and concerns of our disabled residents and provide their full participation in the activities and services of Wakefield.”

Public Participation: No public participation

Approval of Minutes from February 7, 2022 Lois made the motion and Darci seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the 2/07/2022 meeting.

Financial Report as of February 28, 2022 Lois reported that no new fund had been added to the account and no withdrawals had been made.



Old/New Business

Summaries, discussions and updates

- **Banner update :** *The banner will be made by Sardella Signs. Jenn McDonald is providing the artwork and it will be ready in time for the Intelligent Lives event.*
- **Membership Update:** *Paula, Lorna, and Darci terms are coming to an end. Paula and Lorna renewed their terms. A new candidate has applied and we are waiting for Town Council's approval.*
- **ZBA Applications:** *Bill Renault and Marie are putting together a plan for new applications to the Zoning Board, to be reviewed by the Disability Commission. Marie proposed that our mission be to educate the ZBA on issues related to housing and people with disabilities. Janice gave an update on events being discussed at the ZBA meeting. There is a proposal for new 40B housing on North Ave.*
- **Update on Intelligent Lives Event:** *Panel Discussion - Biddy & Bo's & Whole Foods are onboard for the event. Jeff Gentry is also willing to speak to employing people with disabilities. Paula volunteered to introduce the film. Marie volunteered to introduce the commission. Panelists will introduce themselves and answer an icebreaker question.*
 - *Sample of some questions for panel discussion:*
 - *Why do you like working?*
 - *What do you think is important about having a job?*
 - *How has working improved your life?*
 - *What do you think makes a good employee?*
 - *What are the benefits of having this person as an employee?*
 - *Share an inspiring story about an employee.*
 - *Q & A*
 - *The committee looked at the invitation list and discussed who will be emailing which invitees - Marie made notes on a spreadsheet*
 - *Janice shared the final draft of the bookmark handout.*
 - *A program was discussed - Janice volunteered to make this, Paula and Marie will be getting together information from the employers*
 - *The committee will meet again on Monday, March 21st to finish up some planning pieces (the program and other logistics will be discussed)*
- *Lois will follow up with Mehreen Butt regarding the certification of the name change of the commission.*

Wrap-up Next Meeting April 4, 2022

Motion to Adjourn *Lorna made the motion, Paula seconded it, to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 pm.*

Respectfully Submitted by L Coughlin, Secretary