

**TOWN OF AMHERST
COMMITTEE on DISABILITIES MINUTES
January 10, 2022**

Present:

Tom Roetzer (Chairperson); Deborah Bucki (Councilmember)

Voting members: Kathryn Barillari; Rachel Martin; Erica Rodman; Susan Zummo; David Wantuck (“David”); Barbara Robertson; Quinn Bushen

Resources: Luci Miranda; Robert McCarthy; David Whalen (“Dave”)

Interpreter: Barbara, Deaf Access Services

Excused: Patrice Freeman

The meeting was called to order at 18:38.

I. Minutes

- a. November 2021 minutes
 - i. Minutes approved as read
 - ii. David – first; Rachel – second

II. Old Business

- a. Rules of Order
 - i. Approved; No further discussion requested
- b. Bike Path
 - i. David: Waiting on feedback for signage wording
 - ii. Needs to be clear for non-verbal and developmentally disabled users
- c. Multimedia Accessibility
 - i. Presentation
 - 1. Erica walked the Committee through an infographic prepared for community business education on multimedia accessibility
 - 2. Feedback:
 - a. Debbie: Suggested reaching out to Chamber of Commerce; Amherst Bee; Link to Town webpage and the Committee
 - b. Dave: Consider include link to committee; including 26% CDC number
 - c. Luci: Switch statistic to whole number; bold and underline; add a creation date
 - d. Barbara: Underline hyperlinks for clarity
 - ii. Annual Report
 - 1. Tom: Request for Comments/Questions
 - a. Very comprehensive
 - b. Debbie: Should vote to approve the report; Consider attending a Work Session to present the report in front of the Board;

Report forwarded to Town Clerk; Tom will email to get on the schedule to present

- i. Motion to approve
 - 1. Sue – first
 - 2. David – second
 - 3. All in favor
- iii. 2022 Goals/Objectives
 - 1. Barbara: Clarification on Multimedia event
 - a. Erica: not a real event; Community outreach project for education
 - 2. David: Building relationship with police
 - a. Stress importance of this
 - b. Training for VRI
 - c. Cannot be 1 time; Needs to be ongoing; Will the police actively use the training?
 - i. Dave: Chief Askey had all of the officers go through the DAT; There was additional Deaf/HOH training; New Chief; Hoping for ongoing commitment towards DAT accreditation; Training is 9 hours of full content; Will send out checklist of accreditation process to Committee
 - ii. Katie: Is there the possibility of incorporating hands-on experience
 - 1. David: Discussed this pre-COVID (ie., staging a traffic stop with a Deaf individual) and hoping to incorporate down the road
 - 3. Rachel/Sue: Brochure
 - a. Scaling down brochure to sensory issues (not just autism)
 - 4. Luci: Request for handouts for the Senior event
 - a. Debbie: Can request money from the board for photocopying
 - b. David: Reach out to a business to sponsor some of the printing
 - 5. Tom: Assessors
 - a. NYS Inclusive Recreation and Resource Center
 - i. NYSIRRC.ORG – “Inclusion U”
 - ii. \$50 to take course and become an assessor
 - iii. Barbara: Working towards completing course
 - b. ADA Coordinators
 - i. Including them in more meetings; more involvement
 - ii. Bob: Amherst is very large; Co-ADA Coordinators; Berke deals more with accessibility/restrooms/etc
 - 6. Tom: Committee Chair Discussion
 - a. Nominate Erica for Chair
 - i. Erica: Conditional acceptance
 - ii. Barbara: Nominate David for Vice Chair

- iii. David: Conditional acceptance
- b. Debbie: Prepare agenda Thursdays prior to Monday meeting
 - i. BandC email; Posted on website; Bylaws that were recently approved help to direct Committee procedure
- c. Sue: Minute takers – can that be on a volunteer basis
 - i. Debbie: Yes
- d. Tom: Nomination for Erica as Chair
 - i. Erica: Accepted
 - ii. David: Second nomination
 - iii. Vote: all in favor
- e. Barbara: Nomination for David as Vice Chair
 - i. David: Accepted
 - ii. Rachel: Second nomination
 - iii. Vote: all in favor
- f. Tom: Erica volunteers for secretary
 - i. David: Second
 - 1. Vote: all in favor

III. New Business:

- a. Debbie: Review on composition of Committees and rules and regulations
 - i. Attorney stated members whose terms ended in '21 can stay on as “holdovers”
 - ii. Still working on exploring the issues and hoping for resolution in the next month
 - iii. Tom and Barbara – Board will likely reappoint as Members to the end of 2023
 - iv. Resource person rules being reviewed as well
 - v. Send Debbie an email requesting reappointment as resource person

IV. Next Meeting

- a. February 15th

V. Closing

- a. Meeting adjourned 19:49
- b. Rachel – first
- c. David – second