

Town of Greenwich
First Selectman's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities
Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2017
2:00 p.m.
Department of Human Services Conference Room

1. The meeting opened at 2:05 p.m.

a. Attendance:

1. Alan Barry
2. Michael Beloff
3. Joe Dowling
4. Alan Gunzburg
5. Lise Jameson
6. Paul Morell, Chair
7. Brita Darany von Regensburg
8. Lolli Ross, Chair
9. Peter Tesei
10. Luis Velasquez

b. Absent:

1. Flo Griffin

Old Business

2. Final Review of Mission, Vision, Goals Statement

a. The mission, vision and goals statement was distributed for final review. The following changes were recommended by committee members:

- Goal 1: delete "on" in second line
- Goal 2: Substitute "people with disabilities" for "disabled people" in the end of third line
- Goal 7: Delete "in accordance with Disability Rights Connecticut, Inc." in second line

Discussion around the importance of this committee being a proactive resource for the Greenwich community rather than a "watchdog" group was emphasized. A motion to accept the mission, vision and goals statement was made by Joe Dowling and seconded by Michael Beloff and with all in favor the motion passed unanimously.

3. Renovation of Middle Schools and Greenwich Board of Education long-term facilities plan

a. KG & D Architects have agreed to attend a future meeting of this committee. It was decided that this should occur in the near future to allow for our committee to provide meaningful input.

b. The committee agreed to invite them to our next committee meeting to discuss the long term plan for renovations.

New Business

4. New Committee Structure and Recruiting Broader Membership

a. Lolli Ross stepped down from her role as Co-Chair and Alan Gunzburg agreed to accept this position. Paul Morell agreed to continue as the other Co—Chair.

b. The need for standing committees and temporary (ad hoc) committees was discussed.

c. This committee will form a standing sub-committee for physical accessibility and Joe Dowling will assume the role of chair.

- d. It was decided the committee will initiate the use of Robert's Rules of Order to conduct meetings and facilitate decision making.
- e. There is a need for two short term committees; one focusing on recruitment and another on community education and outreach for an event targeted for July 26, 2018.
- f. Town representation (professional staff representing Town departments) on the committee was discussed. It was suggested their roles be clearly defined.
- g. The need to broaden our membership to be inclusive of all citizens who experience a disability was discussed. All agreed this committee should not be too large and rather promote participation through our current and future sub-committees.
- h. Committee members agreed that our group should not duplicate other efforts in the community. Specifically, the Age and Dementia Friendly initiative was an example of how our committee could work together towards mutual goals. Lise Jameson serves on this initiative and will act as a liaison on behalf of our committee.
- i. Lise, Luis and Lolli will work together to reach out to potential members to broaden our scope of representation.
- j. An event/program to advance awareness of the committee and its mission, vision and goals was brainstormed. The event could take place on the "birthday" of the ADA on July 26th. Holding this event at Greenwich Point in the Baker Pavilion is considered. The idea of people sharing their stories or short film clips (faces of disability, I am your neighbor) could be pursued. The website launch could be announced and promoted at this event.

5. Complaint Contact Process

- a. Complaints and questions will be directed to the Department of Human Resources via the new website that will be launched on August 1, 2018.

6. Action Steps

- a. All members will come prepared to our next meeting with ideas and suggestions to further discuss plans for the community outreach program/event.
- b. Members shall consider areas where representation on the committee may be needed and communicate to the ad-hoc committee on recruitment.

7. Next Meeting

- a. The next meeting date is Monday, May 7, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. to be held in the Department of Human Services Conference Room.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.