

COMMITTEE CONCERNING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES MEETING MINUTES

City of Middletown

61 Durant Terrace – Recreation/Community Service Building

April 7, 2015

6:00 PM

1. Members Present: Marty Knight/Chairperson, Elderrean Paules, August DeFrance, Keith Vinci, Marie Hurley, Phil Cacciola and Joseph Carta (via phone)

Absent: Richard Pelletier

Staff Present: Debbie Stanley, Acting Director, Recreation/Community Services, Karen Nocera, Recreation/Community Services

General Public:

2. Meeting Called to Order: Called to order at 6:03pm.

3. Public Hearing:

4. Approval of Minutes: *A motion to approve the meeting minutes of January 6, 2015, was made by Marie Hurley and seconded by Joseph Carta. The motion was passed. Elderrean Paules abstained from voting because she did not have a chance to review the minutes. August DeFrance noted that he was absent at the January meeting and it was not indicated so in the minutes.*

Departmental Reports:

- August DeFrance stated that the Eckersley Hall building committee meetings have been very short. There are minor issues that are being worked on (railings, etc.). They have been voting and paying bills. A discussion ensued.
- Marie Hurley mentioned that most of the Mattabassett project meetings have been cancelled due to the weather. The project may go over budget. They only started to dig again just last week. A discussion ensued.
- Elderrean Paules stated that all of the units at Monarca Place are filled and that all is good.
- Karen Nocera reported that the Unified Theater production went very well and that Keith Vinci did a great job with the kids. He taught them how to sign “Lean on Me”. The kids made a thank you card for Keith. The Lady Katherine cruise is already filled for May. A discussion ensued.
- Deb Stanley reported that everything is going well in Senior Services. There are lots of programs being offered. The seniors love the new building. Recreation had a very successful Easter egg hunt. They have begun hiring the students for summer help. A discussion ensued.
- Joseph Carta stated that we still haven’t resolved the door issue at River’s Edge Condominiums. Joseph asked if Elanah from the Office of Protection and Advocacy has been in contact with Marty. Marty stated that Elanah Sherman has been in contact with him. Laura Runte drafted a letter to Fair Housing. Deb Stanley read this letter aloud to the committee. A discussion ensued. The committee suggested some changes to the letter. The letter will be edited and sent to Fair Housing as well as carbon copied to Elanah of the Office of Protection and Advocacy and Robert Conn (Condominium Board of Directors). Keith Vinci suggested that committee members of CCPD attend the next condominium association meeting. Joseph Carta will find out the meeting dates. A discussion ensued.

- Karen Nocera mentioned that there is a sign that was placed in a curb cut out in the intersection of Main Street and Union Streets on the side of Rite Aid. Deb will contact Geen Thazhampallath, Ricky Romano and Billy Russo about the sign. A discussion ensued.
- Marty Knight mentioned that the Mayor's office did not receive his email regarding the appointments for the Committee Concerning People with Disabilities. Therefore, the appointments were not made at the Common Council meeting on April 6, 2015. After calling the Mayor's office and resending the email, Marty was told that the appointments will be made at the next Common Council meeting in May. The re-appointments are for Phil Cacciola, Elderrean Paules, Joseph Carta and Richard Pelletier. A discussion ensued.
- Phil Cacciola suggested that Sgt. Godwin come back to the meetings. He also requested that the committee receive information about all ADA issues that Laura deals with. Deb stated that she receives a monthly report from Laura regarding all issues that she has handled throughout that month. Deb will forward this report to the committee. A discussion ensued.
- Elderrean Paules suggested that the Committee Concerning People with Disabilities have a table at the Senior Expo on May, 5, 2015. She is hoping to have the Lion's Club attend with their low vision screening equipment. A discussion ensued.

Old Business

New Business:

Miscellaneous:

Adjournment: *A motion of adjournment was made by Marie Hurley and was seconded by Elderrean Paules. The motion carried unanimously.* The meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Bruni Runte