

July 13th, 2022, Fitchburg Disability Commission Monthly Meeting
In-Person Meeting@ 1:30pm.

Commission Members:

Bill Tolos, Chair	Present	
Marshal Haneisen		Absent
Dan Cunningham		Absent
Sharon Tardiff		Absent
Doris Matte	Present	
Carolyn Quirk	Present	
Deanna Tardiff		Absent
Barbara Slattery	Present	

Amy LeBlanc and Tiffany Wells attended the Fitchburg Disability Commission Meeting.

Item 1: Reading of the Minutes Meeting commenced at 1:30pm.

Item 2: Announcements/Notices/Events:

- a. Join MOD and friends in the Massachusetts disability community for the Disability Summit, an event celebrating the important work our community does to promote accessibility. This year, we're celebrating "Accessibility in a Digital World". Learn how our partners across the Commonwealth are making the digital world an inclusive space for people with disabilities.

Thursday, October 27

10 AM - 1 PM

Mass General Brigham at Assembly Row
399 Revolution Drive | Somerville, MA 02145

Sign up at MOD Website.

- b. Discussion/Survey was taken on line to move the time of the Disability Commission meetings from 1:30pm to sometime in the morning time frame of 9-10am. Commission voted to hold Meetings in the morning timeframe of 9:30/10:00am. Amy will check the availability of the room .

Item 3: Open Forum:

- a. Discussion to hold a Sensory Friendly movie open to people of all abilities in Fitchburg. (Sensory Friendly films provide a friendly accepting environment to all abilities. The Movie Theater will have their lights up, the sound turned down and audience members may get up move around). Commission voted to hold Sensory Movies.
- b. Commission voted to hold Holiday Ornament Class this December.
- c. Next meeting new Officers for Disability Commission will be voted on.

Item 4: Accessible Art Project: Monthly classes are being held at the ARC of Opportunity, and the Senior Center, classes are limited to ten people, due to COVID 19. Art Exhibit will be held Wednesday, September 14th and Thursday, September, 15th from 10-2pm at the Senior Center 1st Floor, everyone is invited to attend the Art Show.

Item 5: Revising the Disability Brochure: Discussion to update the Brochure and turn it into a two-sided single panel with just the key contact info. Taking a poll/vote to see if there is a more desirable time to meet. Complete Brochure by next Meeting in July. Tabled for now, checking into design and cost.

Item 6: Groundbreaking Ceremony Canton Valley Community Apartments: Ribbon cutting will be held in October 2022.

Item 7: Old Business:

- a. Membership: *Ongoing.*
- b. A number of curb cuts were discussed at open forum, there are several curb cuts located throughout the city that need attention, a list will be presented to the Department of Public Works. Some of the streets are listed below: List has been updated.
Rollstone Road needs curb cut.
Caldwell Street handicap spots need curb cut.
Handicap Parking at Anwelt Complex will be reviewed for compliance. **Parking lot is being reviewed for compliance, update at July Meeting. Tabled.**
Crosswalk across Electric Ave., at Old Deerfield Road
Status of list to be updated next meeting

Community Access Training:

The **Community Access Monitoring Program** trains you to survey buildings for accessibility and use your skills to advocate for compliance with various rules and regulations. The training covers structural barriers, unequal policies and practices, inaccessible communication, and advocacy techniques for partnering with organizations and individuals to be successful in making communities more accessible to people with disabilities.

This is a 2 day training. Each day is scheduled for 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM on Zoom.

Upcoming dates:

Tuesday, September 13th and Wednesday, September 21st
Hosted by the Acton Commission On Disability

Wednesday, November 2nd and Thursday, November 3rd
Hosted by the Pittsfield Commission On Disability and AD-Lib Center for
Independent Living

Sign up at the MOD Website.

Item 8: Motion to adjourn, meeting at 2:45pm.