



## **NORTHAMPTON COMMISSION ON DISABILITY AND NORTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL**

Northampton Senior Center 67 Conz Street, Northampton, MA 01060

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Tori Eklund, Chair Hannah Coyle, Vice-Chair

Patricia Shaughnessy, ADA Coordinator

### **Minutes of the June 17, 2014 Commission on Disability Meeting**

**Members Present:** Tori Eklund, Chair  
Patricia Shaughnessy, ADA Coordinator  
City Councilor Marianne LaBarge  
Ruth McGrath, Secretary  
Gaetane Fortin  
Michael Nagy

**Members Absent:** Hannah Coyle, Vice-Chair

**Members Excused:** Daniel Langer  
James Winston

**Recorder:** Ruth E. McGrath

1. Tori Eklund, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. She announced the meeting was being recorded and videotaped. Member introductions followed.
2. **Public Comment:** None
3. City Councilor Marianne LaBarge made a motion to approve the May 20, 2013 minutes, seconded by Ruth McGrath. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **AGENDA ITEM:** Guest Speaker - Janet Shaw, Director of Independent Living Services, from Stavros. Ms. Shaw complimented the Commission on the Braille and Large Print menus. She suggested that Jim Wolejklo, who operates, the Disability Action Network for Stavros be invited to attend our Commission. Ms. Shaw also described current initiatives at Stavros.
5. **AGENDA ITEM:** Review of COD presentation at the meeting of Social Services, Veterans, Recreation and Cultural Committee. Channel 22 interviewed Ms. Eklund before the meeting on the topic of the Braille menus.
6. **AGENDA ITEM:** There is a Pioneer Valley Planning Commission/PVTA meeting June 18<sup>th</sup> 3:30 at the Northampton Senior Center.
7. **AGENDA ITEM:** Patte Shaughnessy and Tori Eklund attended the June 19<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting and spoke during the public portion in support of the handicapped parking ordinances.

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8. **AGENDA ITEM: Benches in Florence Center.** Patricia Shaughnessy presented an update on proposed locations and type of bench. Ruth McGrath made a motion to allow up to \$3500.00 for two benches with plaques, seconded by City Councilor Marianne LaBarge. Motion passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Ruth McGrath asked that the recently purchased COD banner be displayed in the Senior Center when not in use, to promote visibility of the Commission.
2. Ruth McGrath discussed the COD website and what would we like to see on the website. Patricia Shaughnessy stated that she has requested several times for members to submit items.
3. New items were presented for the COD library, including a new, updated catalog from the Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

**At 6:11 motion made by Ruth McGrath to adjourn, seconded by Michael Nagy. Motion passed unanimously.**

**The next meeting is July 15, 2014 at 5:00 pm. REMINDER: There is no meeting in August.**

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Ruth E. McGrath, Secretary**

