**Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities Special Meeting Minutes**

When October 8th, 2019 6:30pm – 7:30

Where: Room B 2nd floor 740 Main St. East Hartford, Ct. 06108

Meeting was called to order by Marie Beaulier at 6:42pm

Present: Marie Beaulier, Art Parker, Vanessa Jenkins, Veronica Rosario, Sunilda Caninero Absent: Bernie Corona.

Special Guests: Lydia Mele and Marc Weinberg.

Secretary’s report – Newly Appointed Member Veronica Rosario awaiting swearing in.

Vanessa read into the minutes the code of ordinance for the Town of East Hartford Article 11. Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities.

ARTICLE 11. COMMISSION ON SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES Section 2-57. Established; Membership. There is established the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities consisting of nine members to study the needs of and to **coordinate programs for persons with disabilities in the** Town. Such members shall be electors of the Town, and not more than six members shall belong to the same political party. To the fullest extent possible, members shall either have a disability or be familiar with the problems of persons with disabilities and at least one member shall be a representative of the Commission on Services for the Elderly. The Committee shall make such reports and recommendations to the Mayor as it deems appropriate. Section 2-58. Appointment of Members; Terms. All appointments shall be for a term of two years.

Town of East Hartford Code of Ordinances Section 2-59. Meetings. CHAPTER 2. The Administration Section 2-59. Meetings. All meetings shall be held at the call of the Chair, and at such other times as the Commission may determine. Section 2-60. Duties. The Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities shall continuously study the conditions and needs of persons with disabilities in the community in relation to architectural barriers, economic, employment, health, recreational and to the matters. The Commission shall analyze the services for person with disabilities provided by the community, both by public and private agencies, and shall make recommendations to the Mayor and the Council regarding the development and integration of public and private agencies, in cooperation with State and other services, to the extent possible. [Sections 2-57 through 2-60 effective 09-19-02]

Vanessa met with Dr. Sharon Bremner and Nate Quesnel at Wells Hall to establish a relationship that would be beneficial to both parties. There is a fair on Wednesday November 13 from 5-7 at East Hartford Middle School. We will have a table and our rep will be Veronica Rosario. Veronica will have a guest Disability Advocate Lydia Mele.

Other suggestions for visibility and opportunities: the Pitkin Playground Ribbon Cutting Spring 2020. This playground will be ADA compliant and service all children. Unified Sports Contacts are Chris Sposito EHMS and Louise Rivard EHHS. Also Spring 2020 are the Honors and Awards and scholarship presentations where we may want to memorialize the commission through a scholarship or award.

Fall Fest- Art will arrive @ 10:30 to assist with set up and is having artwork/poster made! Marie will arrive at 10:30 also will leave at 2:00. Veronica will be there the entire time and Marc W. will help us at around 1pm to cover for Sunilda C. Veronica will also make bookmarks with some information about the commission on them. Everyone has handouts and forms and goodies.

No new report for the commission on aging.

Special Guest : Lydia Mele Disability Advocate – Lydia is part of a Task Force on Transportation and the ADA. In hopes of improving the reliability and cost associated with this type of public transportation. Lydia gave the commission questionaires to have folks fill out House Bill No.5245.

Adjournment- Meeting adjourned 7:30pm

Next Meeting – Tuesday November 12, 2019 6:30pm

Respectfully Submitted

Vanessa Jenkins