

Commission on Services for People with Disabilities Meeting Minutes

- **Date:** 10/10/23
- **Time:** 6:30 pm
- **Location:** Raymond Library / Virtual Option available
- **Room:** 2A

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance- Present: Vanessa Jenkins, Rena Berube, Carlos Martinez-Rivera, Gary Roy

Absent: Rachel Botts (excused), Sunilda Caminero, Veronica Rosario

Chair's Report:

- Welcome to the new member, Carlos Martinez-Rivera. Letter of recommendation and confirmation written on October 3rd, 2023, by Mayor Mike Walsh. Officially swore in on 10/10/23, and membership expires on January 31, 2023.
- Minutes approved from 3/14/23. Motion made by Rena Berube, 2nd by Carlos to approve.
- Fall Festival: Souvenirs did not arrive on time for festival due to several causes, such as no quorum, and town website issues. The commission has forged a new partnership with Raymond Library to create and distribute assistive devices that can be printed in Makerspace using the 3D printer. Some devices that were made were pen holders, key holders, book page holders, etc... These devices were distributed during the Fall Fest, helping with community engagement and awareness of the Commission. There were also questions asked about transportation assistance to work and medical appointments, as well as how to obtain Life Alert fall prevention devices.
- Conservation meeting- Accessibility concerns expressed and addressed by committee members. Communication needs

to remain open between the Town Council and residents.

Old Business:

- Livability Index- The commission will be developing surveys for residents using a model from AARP.

New Business:

- Outreach- Resource Fair. Date moved from Fall to Spring 2024. Chair will keep the committee posted with a new date, and a table will be set up with useful giveaways to continue to create awareness of the committee's mission.
- Opportunity for Residents to Speak: Carlos introduced himself to current members and described himself as a “fighter for justice in the community”. Gary Roy expressed an idea of awarding town businesses with a certificate from the committee for being accessible to all residents. Chair (Vanessa) will accept nominations immediately from commissioners. Nominations will include reasons why they feel a business is deserving.

Approval to pay clerk- Motion to approve by Rena Berube, 2nd by Gary Roy

Motion to adjourn- Made at 7:28pm by Carlos Martinez Rivera, 2nd by Rena Berube.

Next Meeting 11/14/23 at 6:30pm. At the Raymond Library and on Teams.