



**Howard County Commission on Disability Issues (CDI)
Gateway Building, Room 303
6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, MD 21046**

Minutes 2-23-15

Present: Lynn Albizo
John Blake
Jean Daniello
Andrea Kolp
Doug Lea
Bridget McCarthy
Steve Rivers
Gloria Smith

Excused: Byung Ahn
Carol Beatty
Jim Ennis
Arthur Gold
Chelsea Stanton

Guest (s): Matthew Plantz

Unexcused: Alex Walker

Staff: Michelle Henry (Executive Secretary)
Erica Lewis (Staff Liaison)
Terry Zeigler (Recording Secretary)

- I. Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm
- II. Welcome and Introductions / Roll Call
- III. Approval of minutes for December 1, 2014
Minutes approved as written.
- IV. Old Business
 - A. Use of CDI training funds
Howard County Autism Society's (HCAS) Transition Symposium scheduled for February was canceled due to bad weather. Jean was the only one who enrolled for this event which has been rescheduled for March 21, 2015.

B. Meet with County Executive

- Suggestion made at the December meeting to invite County Executive Alan Kittleman to a future Commission meeting. Commission will need to focus on an agenda with concrete agenda items for discussion. Few of the possible agenda items mentioned; Transportation, Employment, Budget (concerning potential cuts in community services and special education); compliance with the ADA; recommendations for making the community accessible; engaging the CDI when new construction is being contemplated. Commission will need to e-mail Michelle key points for her to prepare an agenda.
- Future meeting date will be determined.

V. New Business

A. Members reviewed some items on state legislative agenda and because of timing and required procedures for officially commenting or providing testimony, decided not to take any further action regarding discussed items.

B. Erica distributed CDI Orientation & Reference folders to all CDI members present at tonight's meeting. It is suggested that CDI members bring their folders to meetings, for easy reference.

Each folder contains the following informational materials:

1. CDI 2015 Meeting Date Schedule
2. Current CDI Roster updated as of 2-20-15
3. Current Operating Policies/Guidelines
4. Howard County Code, Sec. 12.401- Commission on Disability Issues
5. Howard County Code, Sections 6.302, 6.303, and 6.304, Boards and Commissions removal of members, absence from meetings, and resignation
6. Copy of CDI 2014 Annual Report
7. ADA reference packet containing:
 - a. an overview of the ADA,
 - b. U.S. Dept. of Justice publication "The ADA and City Governments: Common Problems;"
 - c. Mid-Atlantic ADA Center fact sheet on the ADA and transportation requirements;
 - d. U.S. Dept. of Justice publication "An ADA Guide for Local Governments: Making Community Emergency Preparedness and Response Programs Accessible to People with Disabilities;"

- e. U.S. Dept. of Justice Publication “Accessibility of State and Local Government Websites to People with Disabilities;”
- f. U.S. Dept. of Justice fact sheet on Project Civic Access.

C. Attendance

Commission passed a motion in December to mail Alex (Commission member) a letter allowing him to explain his absences from the last four Commission meetings. The Commission reviewed and took under advisement, Alex’s undated letter, which was postmarked December 29, 2014, and which explained Alex’s consecutive absences from the CDI meetings. The Commission declined to pass a resolution excusing Alex’s absences and, consistent with the relevant sections of the Howard County Charter and Howard County Code, deemed the position to be vacated and directed that the County Executive’s office be so notified.

D. Review role & responsibilities of CDI. The Howard County Code, as it pertains to CDI, clarifies the duties and responsibilities of the Commission.

E. CDI 2014 Annual Report – Recommendations contained in report may be used by CDI as basis for 2015 goals and objectives.

F. 2015 goals and objectives
Employment and transportation

VI. Announcements

A. Erica distributed a copy of a news release regarding County Executive Allan H. Kittleman’s second Citizens’ Budget Hearing for the FY2016 budget cycle. The hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the Banneker Room of the George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive in Ellicott City.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next CDI meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2015
6:30 to 8:30 pm, in Room 303 of the Gateway Building.

To request this document in an alternate format, or to request accommodations for participation in a Commission on Disability Issues meeting, please contact Erica Lewis at 410-313-6402 (Voice/Relay) or at ealewis@howardcountymd.gov at least 7 days prior to the meeting date.