



Danbury Commission for Persons With disAbilities

155 Deer Hill Avenue, Danbury, CT 06810

Monthly Meeting Minutes October 8, 2013

in attendance: John Gentile (Chairman), Rose Marie Bouciler, Annie Dance, Joanne LaPorta, Frank Reed
absent: Paul Kachevsky, William Lewis, John Neumuller, Roberto Perez, Frances Ryan, Chad Sinanian

The meeting was called to order by John Gentile at 6:35pm.

1. Welcome & Introduction:
John Gentile
2. Review & Accept Minutes:
Sept. 10, 2013
3. Phone Log: John Gentile
 - no calls
4. October is National Employment disAbility Awareness month
 - Annie to write announcement/press release about this and other topics of interest to be approved by John Gentile before it's sent
 - Annie Dance will write a press release monthly that we will send via our online newsletter system, MailChimp
 - Currently on our distribution list: 2,580
 - We will feature a link to the sign up form on our website
5. On Demand Transportation: (Kept as an Open Item)
 - Frank Reed will look into possible grant state funding with HART
 - Possibly present at CT Council on Developmental Disabilities council meeting in January
6. 2013 Recognition Award: Update for the Carousel at the Mall receiving the award
 - Press and other coverage:
 - CT Rep. Janice Giegler, Assistant Republican Leader - <http://cthousegop.com/2013/09/danbury-commission-for-persons-with-disabilities-to-honor-carousel-at-danbury-fair-mall/>
 - Hamlet Hub - <http://news.hamlethub.com/bethel/places/39919-danbury-fair-carousel-wins-awards-for-its-accessibility-1379904533>
 - 98Q radio - <http://www.98q.com/local-news-stories/e525aacd1655e3ae596a5cafd42e6bb4>
 - The News-Times (short but nice...) <http://www.newstimes.com/local/article/Danbury-mall-carousel-given-award-4860696.php>
 - Featured in New England ADA newsletter - to be published soon
 - Any Organization we should target in the future?
 - HARtransit - **Housatonic Area Regional Transit**



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7. Social Media Report:

- Web Site Funding for newsletter – Annie Dance
 - Mailchimp - \$75/month - John to discuss reimbursement with PJ Prunty in Mayor's office
- Web Site updates – Annie Dance
 - alphabetize list, add link to sign up for announcements
 - will ask Melissa to update the website
- Social media report
 - Facebook: currently 17 likes
 - Twitter: currently 42 followers

8. Danbury Buddy Ball Program: Update - Frank Reed

- Frank to follow-up with him
- to keep as an open item on agenda for future meetings

9. Open Discussion:

- Stop & Shop lack of lights
 - Newtown Road location (and maybe Lake Ave.?) does not have lights on in frozen food and refrigerated food sections after 9pm and before 9am
 - John Gentile had conversation with Manager, it's a Stop n Shop corporate policy, the manager said he would pass along the Commission's concerns
- March of Dimes walk on May 4 - Frank Reed will be the Ambassador for the event
 - will leave as open item on the agenda and promote the event closer to the date

10. Next Meeting: November 12, 2013

Minutes submitted by Annie Dance