City of Danbury Commission for Persons with disAbilities

155 Deer Hill Avenue, Danbury, CT 06810

Monthly Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2014 - 6:30pm

in attendance: John Gentile (Chairman), Rose Marie Bouciler, Annie Dance, Paul Kachevsky, Joanne LaPorta, John Neumuller, Frances Ryan, Chad Sinanian
absent: Bobby Perez, William Lewis
guests: John Michael Gentile, Jonathan Slifka – Governor's Liaison to the disAbility Community, and John Schroeder

meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m.

- Welcome & Introduction: John Gentile
  - Guests: Jonathan Slifka – Governor's Liaison to the disAbility Community; John Schroeder - has expressed an interest in joining the Commission

- Review & Accept Minutes: February 11, 2014
  - minutes accepted

- Phone Log: John Gentile - no calls

- E-newsletter - Annie Dance
  - reimbursement request submitted for January and February
  - Last e-newsletter sent on 3/3/2014 - <u>People First - Some disabilities may be hidden or not easy to see</u> - for statistics & organizations that opened it please see addendum
    next e-newsletter - **March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month** and The Arc invites you/everyone to join them on March 29 in a grassroots initiative to help raise awareness about people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).
  - Annie to contact PJ to get quote from Mayor

- Social media report as of 3/10/14
  - Facebook: currently 21 likes (up from 20 in Feb., Jan. was the same as Feb.)
  - Twitter: currently 143 followers (up from 131 in Feb., and 110 in Jan.)

- 2013 -2014 Recognition Award update
  - Housatonic Area Rapid Transportation (HART) - reached out to HART
  - John Gentile has spoken with Rick, contacted Eric (CEO) at HART regarding next steps
  - award to be given April 25th - 3:30pm - John to confirm date and time with Eric
  - press release to go out prior, date TBD

- On Demand Transportation: (kept as an open item)
  - past studies have been done, we have a need for expanded taxi service availability and affordability
  - public transportation is totally inadequate for persons with disabilities
  - John in receipt of email dated 3/6/14 - ConnDOT accepting applications - see attachment

- Danbury Buddy Ball Program (training program for children): Update - Frank Reed
    - Will keep as an open item on agenda for future meetings
    - RoseMarie reached out to them to get a flyer
    - Miracle League of CT in West Hartford - John Slifka serves on the Board, will send John Gentile information to give to Buddy Ball organizers

- March of Dimes walk on Sunday May 4 - Frank Reed will be the Ambassador for the event
    - Frank to send Annie details - we will send a press advisory a week before the event
    - will keep as open item on the agenda and promote the event closer to the date

- Open Discussion
    - Chad S. would like the Commission to have a social outing this summer to see the Wizard of Oz in July - he will bring more details to the next meeting
    - Special Olympics starting Sunday - tennis - regional games at Weston High School
    - Annie received email from the Director of U.S. International Council on Disabilities (USICD) for the Commission to become a member - $300/yr. for an organization (see enclosed attachment) - are we interested? If so, discuss next steps - we can get an invoice from them for processing if approved by Mayor's Office - see benefits and details about membership on http://usicd.org/index.cfm/join-usicd (and attached)
        - USICD learned of us from our e-newsletter in November (11/20/2013 - Join Us in Supporting the DisAbility Treaty - Watch Senate Hearing Live Tomorrow)
        - see us listed among other supporters on http://usicd.org/template/page.cfm?id=252 and on http://usicd.org/doc/USICD%20to%20SFRC.pdf
        - next steps - table to next meeting, research website further, John to discuss with PJ

- Next Meeting: April 8, 2014

meeting adjourned at 7:35pm

Respectfully submitted by Annie Dance, Secretary

Attest, John Gentile, Chairman

addendum

- Last e-newsletter sent on 3/3/2014 - People First - Some disabilities may be hidden or not easy to see - over 260 people, from nearly 80 organizations opened our last e-newsletter:

Organization
ADA Coalition of CT
AIDS Connecticut (ACT)
Arizona State University School of Social Work
Ashfield Healthcare
Bridgeport Mayor
City of Danbury
City of Danbury - Equal Housing Opportunity Program
City of Danbury Commission for Persons with disAbilities
City of Danbury Danbury Recreation Programs
City of Danbury Fire Department
City of Danbury Health and Human Services Department
City of Danbury Human Resources
City of Danbury Police Department
City of Danbury, Mayor's Office
CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF (CAD)
Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA)
Connecticut Department of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)
Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress
Connecticut magazine
CONNECTICUT PARENT ADVOCACY CENTER (CPAC)
Connecticut Post
CONNECTICUT STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC)
CT Commission on Aging
CT Dept. of Labor
CT Mirror
CT State Dept Of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Cuyler News Service
Danbury City Council

Danbury City Council - Council at Large
Danbury Daily Voice
Danbury Hospital
Danbury Police Department
Danbury Professional Firefighters Union Local 801
Dept Of Social Services
DHHS, 11 SHS
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)
EPILEPSY FOUNDATION OF CONNECTICUT
FAP-Friends of Autistic People
Hartford Courant
Harvard School of Public Health
Health Resources in Action
Human Rights And Opportunities, Commission On
Lifespan/Women's Medicine Collaborative
MA Department of Public Health
MA Dept. of Public Health, Bureau of Environmental Health
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Mental Health & Addiction Services, Dept Of
Merck & Co., Inc.
MidHudsonNews.Com
National Diabetes Education Program
NBC Connecticut
New England ADA Center
NH Asthma Control Program
Orange County Post
Public Health, Dept Of
Register Star
St Joseph hospital
State of Connecticut Legislative Management
State of Connecticut Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities
State of CT Dept. of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)
State of CT Insurance Dept.
The Academy of International Studies, Danbury Public Schools
The Cornwall Local
The Hartford Courant
The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University
The New York Times
The News-Times
The News-Times - Hearst Media
The Putnam County Courier
Time magazine
Times Herald Record
UMass Memorial
University of Rochester
WBNR AM
WCSU
Westchester News
Woman's Day
womans.org - Woman's Hospital

danburyc4pwd <danburyc4pwd@gmail.com>

USICD Membership

1 message

Suzanne Richard <srichard@usicd.org> Fri, Mar 7, 2014 at 4:15 PM
To: DanburyC4PWD@gmail.com

March 7, 2014

Annie Dance

Commission For Persons With DisAbilities, City of Danbury, Connecticut

Danbury, CT

Dear Annie:

Thank you for supporting United States ratification of the international *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* or the *Disability Treaty*, for short. As a member of the coalition for ratification that is today over 800 organizations strong, Commission For Persons With DisAbilities, City of Danbury, Connecticut is essential to success on this issue. Though the Senate has not yet done its job done on ratification, with your support, I know we will succeed. One Billion people with disabilities around the world look to the United States to affirm that disability rights are human rights, and to join over 140 countries in committing to non-discrimination, opportunity, and accessibility.

I hope you share this vision of a more accessible and equitable world. The Disability Treaty is inspiring a global movement of people with disabilities who are now fighting for a seat in the classroom, a fair shot in the workplace, and a ballot in the voting booth. Americans must stand with them. Not just through our own ratification, but for the world's progress ahead. That is why I am writing to ask Commission For Persons With DisAbilities, City of Danbury, Connecticut to become an Organizational Member of the U.S. International Council on Disabilities today. USICD's strong foundation is based in our members, organizations like yours who have made the Americans with Disabilities Act real here at home and have much to share with the world. We need you behind our mission of *promoting the rights and full participation of persons with disabilities through global engagement and United States foreign affairs.*

In 2013, USICD and our members made great strides in building a more accessible and equitable world for all by leading the campaign for U.S. ratification of the Disability Treaty. With you, this dynamic campaign that includes diverse community voices, media outreach, policy analysis, and a strong presence on Capitol Hill has delivered a message to the Senate on behalf of disability, veterans, business and faith-based groups that U.S. ratification matters and that we will not be deterred.

Also last year, we launched a new initiative aimed at supporting the careers of young professionals with disabilities interested in foreign affairs and international development. We placed seven undergraduate and graduate students in organizations and agencies in D.C. focused on international development to much success and we look forward to our 2014 group's arrival. Additionally, through the Global Disability Rights Library and our role as the official United States member assembly in Disabled Peoples International, we continue to build bridges between the American disability community and the global community. Our annual mining of the U.S. Department of State's

human rights reports for disability citations is available online, and our sites www.usicd.org and www.disabilitytreaty.org continue to capture international news and share our members' good works with the world. We have recently launched a news feed on www.usicd.org to highlight the 2014 Paralympics and foster

greater connectivity between rights advocates and the athlete community and to promote the Games as a vehicle for solidarity among the global disability community.

By becoming a USICD member, you join a community of organizations dedicated to supporting disability advocacy on the world stage. This year we plan offer as a benefit to our members a directory of all member organizations to foster more networking and information sharing. We are developing plans to have a members-only portal on the website to facilitate greater connections. We will also be hosting a members-only event this year which will feature speakers and discussions of disability around the world. And as we have in the past, we will list your organization's link, logo and description on our website to increase your visibility to the thousands of people that visit our website each month.

Thank you for considering membership in USICD. I am available to answer any question. To join, simply fill out the Membership Form below and return it with payment to the address below, or pay online at https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/130084. If an invoice is required for your internal processing, please contact srichard@usicd.org. We look forward to welcoming you into the USICD membership.

Sincerely,

David Morrissey

Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marca Bristo, President, Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago

Lex Frieden, Vice-President, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

John Lancaster, Past President

David Hutt, Treasurer, National Disability Rights Network

Glen White, Secretary, Research and Training Center on Independent Living, Kansas University

The Honorable Tony Coelho, former Congressman from California

Jill Houghton, US Business Leadership Network

Axel Leblois, G3ict

Barbara LeRoy

Developmental Disabilities Institute, Wayne State University

Susan Mazrui, AT&T

Patricia Morrissey, Employment Diversity Network

David W. Oaks, MindFreedom International

Stephanie Ortoleva, Women Enabled

Jeff Rosen, CSDVRS, LLC

Eric Rosenthal, Disability Rights International

Randy Rutta, Easter Seals, Inc.

Diana Samarasan, Disability Rights Fund

Betsy Valnes, National Youth Leadership Network

Aubrey Webson, Perkins International

Tom Zampieri, Blinded Veterans Association

Government Agency Members (Non-voting)

U.S. Access Board

National Council on Disability

U.S. Department of Transportation

U.S. Department of Education – OSERS

U.S. Department of Homeland Security – FEMA

U.S. Department of Labor – ODEP

2014 USICD MEMBERSHIP FORM

For Check Payments, please submit this page along with payment in the enclosed remittance envelope or to:

United States International Council on Disabilities

1012 14th St. NW, Suite 105

Washington, DC 20005

For Credit Card Payments, please send this form by email or fax using the contact details below.

Visit USICD's Donate page for payment information at:

https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/130084

Date: _____

Membership Type: ____**Organizational ($300)**

____ **Individual ($25)**

Name of Organization: _____

First Name (Given Name): _____

Last Name (Surname): _____

Title: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **State** _____

Zip Code: ____ **Country** _____

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Contact Email: _____

Website: _____

Areas of Interest: _____

USICD, 1012 14th Street, NW, Suite 105, Washington, D.C. 20005

Telephone: 202-347-0102 Fax: 202-347-0351 www.usicd.org

For more information, please contact: Suzanne Richard Email: srichard@usicd.org Phone: (202) 347-0102

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JOIN USICD

Membership in the U.S. International Council on Disabilities is open to a variety of organizations and individuals in the U.S. and its territories. As a USICD member, you will be contributing to the work we are doing to promote equality, inclusion and the human rights of people with disabilities worldwide. We will keep you apprised of opportunities to be directly involved in USICD committees, programs and advocacy initiatives, as well as conferences and events. Join the global disability movement through USICD today!

Download USICD's 2013 Membership form at the right of this page.

MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Members

USICD's core membership is made up of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), some of which are national organizations with large memberships and others that are smaller in scope. Their common bond is that they are committed to promoting equality, inclusion, empowerment and the human rights of people with disabilities worldwide. Most of our NGO members are disability-related organizations. However, diversity is one of USICD's core values and we are eager to expand our circle to involve a range of stakeholders from other civil society movements, international development actors, and for-profit entities.
The annual dues for Organization Members are $300.

Individual Advocates

USICD membership is also open to individuals who share our vision. We know that there are many individuals who are deeply committed to international disability rights but, for a variety of reasons, may not have the opportunity to participate in USICD through an organization. In these cases, we invite advocates to join USICD in their individual capacity.
The annual dues for Individual Members are $25.

US Government Agencies

United States foreign policy and international development efforts have a vast reach and impact lives in every corner of the world. Ensuring that our US foreign policies, plans and programs are fully reflective of our national values and our national laws on disability is a very difficult task. USICD is committed to linking government stakeholders to the wealth of experience, expertise and technical assistance resources our members have to offer. By joining USICD, these government agencies demonstrate their commitment to ensuring accessibility and inclusion in their global efforts.

SIGN UP NOW!

Please download our 2013 Membership Form below, complete and return to USICD with check payment.

2013 USICD Membership Form

1012 14th St. NW,
Suite 105
Washington, DC 20005
Fax: (202) 347-0351
Email: srichard@usicd.org

To use a credit card to join online, please use our **Secure Online processing tool (via Network for Good).** Just write 'Membership' in the dedication line to indicate that payment should be processed as membership.

Dues for Government Members vary and are negotiated between USICD and the prospective member.

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Subj: **Section 5310 transportation grant opportunities for seniors and persons with disabilities**
Date: 3/6/2014 12:26:16 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
From: ricks@hartransit.com
To: firstselectman@bethel-ct.gov, btinsley@brookfieldct.gov, M.Boughton@danbury-ct.gov, w.shepperd@danbury-ct.gov, schapman@newfairfield.org, mayor@newmilford.org, first.selectman@newtown-ct.gov, selectman@ridgefieldct.org, cread@bridgewatertownhall.org, jpemberton@townofreddingct.org, ccope@townofshermanct.org, Shumiston@demarcomc.com, mcthomps@comcast.net, Marilyn.Place@newtown-ct.gov, JMGSR1550@aol.com, fmreed@gmail.com
CC: dhannon@hvceo.org, ericb@hartransit.com, Ellen.Lawrence@ct.gov, Alicia.Gonzalez@ct.gov

Good Afternoon:

ConnDOT is now accepting applications under the Federal Section 5310 program to enhance the mobility of seniors and Individuals with disabilities. The attached file provides a brief overview of the grant program and links to application materials.

The new federal transportation bill (MAP-21) combined the old Section 5310 van grant program with other funding programs that enhance transportation for persons with disabilities. The new 5310 program now provides support for:

A. Up to 80% of the cost of wheelchair accessible vehicles.
B. Public transportation projects that exceed the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
C. Public transportation projects that improve accessibility for persons with disabilities.
D. Public transportation alternatives that assist seniors and individuals with disabilities with transportation.

As a result, there are significant changes to the application process this year. Applicants should review the application instructions before attempting to fill out the application, and use **page 11** of those instructions for information on which sections must be completed for each type of project. There is a 50% match requirement for operating and 20% for capital projects.

Please note:

- The application instructions are now a separate document from the application itself.
- Only the application document should be submitted by the applicant.
- The application is a fillable form accessible at www.ct.gov/dot/5310 that will expand to the size required for the information. It may be submitted electronically to Alicia.Gonzalez@ct.gov.

Applications must be submitted by 4PM on Friday, May 16, 2014 to ConnDOT and HVCEO. Applications to ConnDOT by e-mail will be forwarded to HVCEO by ConnDOT. Those that submit via US Postal Service or other carrier must submit a separate copy to ConnDOT and HVCEO respectively. HARTransit will review and prioritize regional applications on behalf of HVCEO based on scoring criteria established by ConnDOT.

For questions on the Section 5310 program, contact Ellen Lawrence at (860) 594-2912 or Alicia Gonzalez at (860) 594-2843.

Please contact me if you are interested in submitting a project or need assistance to complete an application.

Best,

Richard A. Schreiner
Director of Service Development
HARTransit

2013 Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Section 5310 Program
Enhanced Mobility for Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities

The application for the FFY 2013 Section 5310 program is now available on the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) website. It has been formatted with fillable forms and may be submitted electronically to: Alicia.Gonzalez@ct.gov. To access the application, go to www.ct.gov/dot/5310.

- Eligible recipients of this competitive program include:
  - A private non-profit organization
  - A State or local governmental authority that:
    - Is approved by the State to coordinate services for seniors and persons with disabilities.
    - Certifies that there are no non-profit organizations readily available in the area to provide the service.
  - An operator of public transportation that receives a Section 5310 grant indirectly through a recipient.

- The application package consists of an instructions packet and an application. The instructions packet is for review only. It contains updated program information, instructions on how to complete the application for FFY 2013 and documentation for awarded applicants. The instructions packet should be read thoroughly and should **NOT** be submitted with the application.

- In 2012, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21, P.L. 112-141) was signed, which has brought changes to the Federal surface transportation programs, including Section 5310.

- Under MAP-21, the existing award of cash grants for qualified recipients towards the purchase of wheelchair-accessible vehicles is maintained and the funding has not been reduced. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will pay up to 80% of the cost of a wheelchair accessible vehicle for what is now called Section 5310 project category **A**. The remaining vehicle cost must be funded by the awarded recipient.

- **In addition, there are 3 new categories of project types that can now be funded under Section 5310; categories B, C & D. These categories are similar to the eligible project types under the former Section 5317 Program known as the New Freedom Program.**

- The FFY 2013 Section 5310 application is organized by project category. Applicants need only to complete the section of the application relevant to the project category for which they are applying. For example, applicants looking to obtain cash grant for a vehicle under the traditional 5310 program would only complete the parts of the application labeled "Section 5310 A Applicants Only."

- Section 5310 A applicants must place a public notice in a major newspaper with the greatest appropriate readership in the proposed service area by **Friday, April 25, 2014.**

- Applicants may submit applications via email or mail to CTDOT. CTDOT will forward emailed applications to the appropriate RPO. If submitting via mail, applicants must submit an original application to CTDOT *and* a copy to the RPO. Applications must be submitted no later than **4:00PM** on **Friday, May 16, 2014.** CTDOT and the RPOs **WILL NOT** review late applications.

- The FFY 2013 application shall be the only application accepted and reviewed by the RPO and the Department. For questions on the Section 5310 program, please contact Ellen Lawrence at (860) 594-2912 or Alicia González at (860) 594-2843. Applicants will be notified of CTDOT grant approval/denial in writing by **Monday June 30, 2014**.

62 Federal Road
Danbury, CT 06810
www.HARTransit.com
(o)203-744-4070 x129
(f) 203-744-0764

HARTransit