



CITY OF ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS  
**COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES**  
GOVERNMENT CENTER  
77 PARK STREET ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS 02703

## MEETING MINUTES

February 6, 2019

Present: Mary-Jane Jenson, Treasurer Susan Jenson, Vice Chairperson Kevin Lacoste, Chris Laureano, Secretary Cynthia Van Voris

Absent: Michael Andrade (ex officio), Jennifer Davies, Chairperson Angela Ferreira, Stephanie Forte (ex officio), William McDonough (ex officio)

Mr. Lacoste called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

--Minutes from January 2019 meeting were distributed and reviewed. Ms. Mary-Jane Jenson moved that the minutes be accepted, and Mr. Laureano seconded the motion; all members present voted in favor.

--Sarah Alden from the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission is scheduled to attend the COD March meeting.

--Update regarding audible crossing signal on Pleasant St. (near Walgreen's)--Ms. Van Voris contacted Councilor Heather Porreca regarding this issue. Councilor Porreca emailed in response:

"I did speak with the DPW Superintendent and inquired if this was something that was possible. He was rather concerned with the cost of installing an audible light at that intersection. I am happy to introduce new business on the council floor for study and recommendation. This will require that the DPW get an actual quote for the instillation. I will also encourage the Council President to speak to the Mayor about this at their meeting that takes place weekly on Tuesday."

Ms. Porreca had previously informed Chairperson Ferreira that the audible signal would cost approximately \$8000 (see minutes of September 5, 2018 meeting). Discussion: How do we advocate for this to be introduced to council floor? How do we get a specific quote from DPW? Members suggested that we need to develop a rationale/ talking points in support of this project: how many people with vision impairments live/ work in the vicinity and would benefit from the audible signal? Statistics by city might be available from the Massachusetts Commission for the



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Blind. Lions Club might be able/willing to provide support, as vision impairment services is one of their areas of special interest.

--Open Forum: no interested parties came forward to discuss issues relevant to the COD.

--EMPN Trauma Training: Mr. Laureano informed COD that a Trauma Training has been scheduled for Monday, March 11, 2019 from 9 am to 5 pm at the Attleboro Public Library; flyers were distributed. This training is being presented by Thomas Brown, President of the Eastern Massachusetts Peer Network. Tickets are on sale for \$35 and CEUs will be available. Maximum of 50 people can be accommodated. Suggestions for publicity: press release to Sun Chronicle, library email newsletter, Visiting Nurses Association, post on COD website page/ Facebook page/ Twitter feed.

Mr. Laureano asked if COD could be a co-sponsor for this event. If so, COD members would be able to attend without charge. Mr. Laureano will contact Ms. Ferreira to explore this option.

--Future speakers: We will pursue asking City Councilor Ty Waterman and North Attleboro COD member Lisa Bordeleau to attend upcoming meetings.

--Next meeting will take place on March 6, 2019.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia Van Voris, COD Secretary