



## **Arlington Disability Commission Minutes**

Date: September 18, 2019

Time: 4:00 pm

Location: 27 Maple Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room

Attendance: Commissioners Cynthia DeAngelis (Chair), Liza Molina, Michael Rademacher (Public Works Director), Kerrie Fallon, Karen Mathiasen, Paul Czech (remote participation)

Others: Christine Bongiorno (Director of Health & Human Services), Ellen Leigh (Disability Advocate)

Absent: Darcy Devney, Paul Raia, Maureen St. Hilaire

### Minutes

1. Meeting called to order at 4:00 pm
2. Introductions
3. Assigned timekeeper & Read Ground Rules
4. June 2019 meeting minutes-tabled
5. Arlington High School Building Committee Update Discussion-Tabled
6. Update on Diversity Equity and Inclusion position. Christine Bongiorno informed the Commission that the position posting closed, there were over 60 applicants, a review panel as well as two interview panels will be assembled. Bongiorno reported that a representative from the Commission would need to participate, members asked to contact Bongiorno directly if interested in participating.
7. FY20 Funding. Christine Bongiorno informed the Commission that there is \$25,000 in the FY20 budget, broken into categories that had been designated by the group in the spring. The Commission voted to approve \$3000 for the website, up to \$1000 for Richard Einhorn to speak at an event, \$7500 approved for door openers for the Senior Center 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor restrooms. Bongiorno will reach out to learn more about self-evaluation for various public spaces and if there is a top priority that the \$10,000 in the Commission budget can be applied.
8. Paul Czech presented an idea to bring Richard Einhorn to Arlington as a speaker. Czech explained that Einhorn is a well-known music producer that one day lost his hearing. Czech reported that Einhorn's speaker fee will be \$500 plus expenses. Czech agreed to be the lead to organize the event. The Commission voted unanimously to support the \$500 fee plus expenses not to exceed \$1000.

9. Correspondence Received- Christine Bongiorno reported that there were two items received over the summer. Both items related to the Arlington Housing Authority. The Commission asked that these continue to be reported to the Commission each month.
10. Election Modernization Study Committee-Christine Bongiorno reported that the Town Moderator is seeking a representative from the Disability Commission to serve on the Study Committee. Bongiorno will send an email to members to ask for a volunteer.
11. Darcy Devney Updates- tabled
12. Town Updates-Michael Rademacher reported that the Department of Public Works is looking at a design to replace brick sidewalks in the center of town. Kerrie Fallon asked if the electronic signboard could be used to remind residents to shovel their sidewalks.
13. Other-Cynthia DeAngelis reported that the True Story Theater representative has reached out to her to ask if the Commission would like to do a retreat or work with them while they still have a grant. DeAngelis also asked members to consider their participation on the Commission moving forward and to be mindful that missed meetings negatively impacts the entire group. Liza Molina asked about remote participation when there is bad weather which makes travel difficult for some members. Christine Bongiorno agreed to research the steps necessary to allow remote participation.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm