



Arlington Disability Commission Agenda

Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Time: 4:00pm

Location: Conducted by Hybrid Participation

This will be a hybrid meeting. Individuals may choose one of the following in-person or virtual options:

1. Attend in person at the Community Center 20 Academy Street/27 Maple Street. Registration not required for in-person attendance.
2. *Notice to the Public on meeting privacy* In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (i.e. Zoom Bombing) all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by registering to receive the meeting info and using the telephone dial-in information provided.

When: October 18, 2023 4:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/j/84858257846>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. On March 29, 2023, Governor Healey signed into law a supplemental budget bill that extends the temporary provisions pertaining to the Open Meeting Law to March 31, 2025. Specifically, this extension allows public bodies to continue holding meetings remotely without a quorum of the public body being physically present at a meeting location and to provide "adequate, alternative" access to remote meetings. The language does not make any substantive changes to the Open Meeting Law other than extending the expiration date of the temporary provisions regarding remote meetings from March 31, 2023, to March 31, 2025.

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/updated-guidance-on-holding-meetings-pursuant-to-theact-extending-certain-covid-19-measures>

Please read Governor Baker's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provision of Open Meeting Law for more information regarding virtual public hearings and meetings:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/open-meeting-law-order-march-12-2020/download>

Agenda

1. Call to Order, Read Ground Rules, Welcome
2. Ground rules
 - a. [Please don't use Zoom chat/messaging during the meeting, unless that is your primary way to participate in a meeting. The co-chairs have disabilities that make it hard to deal with Zoom chat/messaging]
3. Guest Introductions
4. Approve Draft September Meeting Minutes
5. Accessible Voting (15 min)
 - a. State has contracted with Democracy Live, introducing a totally online voting option. They are also working to update voting machines. Apply at Town Clerk's office or online, need a MA driver's license. Juli will send resident info to Democracy Live, then resident will receive two emails with login and PIN. Resident will login and mark ballot on their computer, add an electronic signature, and votes are uploaded to Town database for processing and then hand counted in office on election day.
 - b. Mail in voting is still an option.
 - c. Clerk's office has been training staff on automark machines.
 - d. Anyone who would like to vote in person can do so (sensory processing options available). Staff will accept reasonable accommodations.
 - e. Automark machines are printers with touch screens. Use braille encoded buttons, will show voter a 'draft' ballot to make sure the resident is voting correctly, then they can submit.
 - f. DeAngelis asked if the Town Clerk can send the commission a blurb about accessible voting options, we can post on social media, send out through Town pages, newsletters.
 - g. Juli stated there is always information on election pages about accessibility, would love to work with commission to expand outreach.
 - h. Raia asked how many people used the automark machine, Juli states about one or two people per precinct.
 - i. Juli suggested we can create a poster with accessible options listed at each precinct so voters will know when they walk in that those options are available.
6. DEI Update (5 min)
 - a. Jill Harvey's leave has been extended through October, planning on returning in November.
7. Town Day Recap (10 min)
 - a. DeAngelis stated she assisted a resident with getting her son home services. Thinks we got a lot of traffic being next to the Rainbow Commission. Was a good opportunity to connect with other programs and services.
 - b. Carpenter stated we got 15 people to sign up for the newsletter. Agreed with DeAngelis that if residents aren't focused on disability issues at the time of Town Day they may not think they need any info from the commission.
 - c. Gatica stated she was asked by a resident if we had any info on diabetes but we didn't. May want to think about next year having more resources on chronic illnesses, we did have information on epilepsy and resources from Perkins. Spoke with a mom who was looking for a friend for her adult daughter; thinks we should compile a volunteer list in the community to send out these requests too. How accessible is Town Day in general? We should reach out to event organizers to ensure accessibility (lots of dogs, crowded walkways, etc.)
8. Commission Leadership (20 min)

- a. Janice expressed interest in being a secretary for the commission. Would like to organize the agenda more by following Robert's Rules of Order on how to conduct public meetings. Sent out an idea of what an agenda would look like under the Robert's guidelines. The minutes would reflect all motions made, how they were voted on, what passed and failed, etc.
 - b. DeAngelis stated the commission did a training on Robert's Rule of Order years ago. Thinks it was run by Town Counsel, Tim will reach out to Mike Cunningham to see if he can present.
 - c. Carpenter motioned to nominate Janice as secretary of the commission, seconded by Fallon, unanimous approval.
9. MBTA Communities (10 min)
- a. Carpenter stated YourArlington reported on the ARB meeting.
10. MOD Grant (10 min)
11. Mini Grant (\$18,000) (20 min)
12. Understanding Our Differences (10 min)
13. Town Override November 7th (10 min)
14. Subcommittee reports (10 min)
- a. DEI
 - b. DPW
 - i. Line striping, chestnut street crosswalk is nearly complete (pedestrian beacon installed), late start on water main repairs in East Arlington
 - c. Outreach Working Group
 - i. Social Media
 - d. Recreation
 - i. CODA
15. Correspondences (10 min)
16. Public Comment
17. Next meeting Wednesday November 15, 2023 at 4PM
18. Closing

Commission members not able to attend please email dei@town.arlington.ma.us prior to the scheduled meeting.

Anyone needing accessibility information or other assistance in order to attend this meeting should contact dei@town.arlington.ma.us. This meeting is open to all interested individuals.