

**Anne Arundel Commission on Disability Issues
2664 Riva Road, Suite 170, the Independence Conference Room
Annapolis, MD 21401**

Meeting Minutes

October 25, 2016, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Commission	
Voting Members In Attendance	
John Barnes	Andrea Bertrand
Vicki Callahan	Jeanne Elion
Nancy Jenkins	John Leopold
Iris Littig	Debra Luzietti-Myers
Barbara McCord	Colleen O’Neill Yanchulis
Ginger Palmer	L. Denise Portis
Geoffrey Riefe	Richard Scordo
Jane Sinclair	
ADA Coordinator’s Office	
In Attendance	
Joelle Ridgeway	Vickie Martin
Ex-Officios	
Non-Voting Members In Attendance	
Kate Callahan	Brandi Francis
Rebecca Hass	Janet Pantaleo
Wendy Scarborough	Jerry Shandrowsky
Sgt. Matt Snyder	
Guest In Attendance	
Mary Ann Howell	Bev Rambo

Welcome

Pam Jordan, Director, Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities presented citations to Beverly Rambo and Joelle Ridgeway in recognition and appreciation of their outstanding dedication to the Commission. Both Commissioners have resigned.

Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the September’s Minutes with a few grammatical and typographical errors to be fixed as identified.

ADA Coordinator’s Report

Mary Ann Howell, past Acting ADA Coordinator, reported there were four issues that came up since the last meeting. One was an elevator issue on the fourth floor of the Arundel Center, a complaint about accessible path and parking at Quite Waters Parks, a complaint regarding accessible parking at the Lake Huron Condominiums, and a complaint about Maryland Hall regarding accessible parking.

OLD BUSINESS

Disability Awareness Day (DAD) – Wrap Up

Ginger Palmer reported that she is in the process of writing thank you notes to each group that made a demonstration at DAD. The commission will begin securing dates with the mall for DAD 2017 in January. Jane Sinclair will deliver the citations that awardees were unable to pick up during the DAD program. Some discussion about the pros and cons of the program followed.

November Meeting

Debra Luzietti-Myers reported that the November full commission meeting, which is always held on the fourth Tuesday of each month, will remain the same even though it falls two days before Thanksgiving. However, the Executive Committee meeting will be held on the third Tuesday instead of the second because of the elections.

Committee Reports

Debra Luzietti-Myers announced that the annual committee reports are due on November 15th. The drop-dead date is the 22nd for those who need additional time. The commission would like to receive as many reports as possible by the 15th.

Holiday Sharing

Richard Scordo reported that the commission has received from the Anne Arundel County Social Services Department a list identifying a family of five for the Holiday Sharing program. Rich will send the details out to everyone on the commission. Rich encouraged member participation.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers

Debra Luzietti-Myers reported that this is the year the commission votes for officers. It's a two-year position and officers start in January of 2017. The positions that are open are the chair of the commission and two vice chairs. The County Executive appoints these positions. However, the commission makes recommendations to fill the positions. Ballots for voting were distributed to members for voting. Votes were tallied, Debra Luzietti-Myers was elected Chair and Denise Portis and Jane Sinclair were elected Vice Chairs. The slate of the nominees will be sent to the County Executive for his consideration.

Holiday Party

Debra Luzietti-Myers reported that November 22 is the commission's final meeting of the year and will be a short business meeting followed by the commission's holiday party. The party will be a pot luck event sponsored by the Executive Committee. It was recommended for everyone participating in the Holiday Sharing program to bring their gift(s) to this holiday gathering.

Guidelines for AA County Boards & Commission

Debra Luzietti-Myers announced that the County Executive's guidelines for all Anne Arundel County Boards and Commissions were passed around for all commissioners to review. It was requested for anyone who cannot attend a meeting to send an email to the ADA office prior to the meeting. Parts of the guidelines identify tracking of monthly attendance.

Break-Out Session – No speaker this meeting

The purpose of the session is to allow the committees' time to discuss and put together their year-end report. These reports will be utilized in preparing the commission's final annual report for the County Executive.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Architecture, Accessibility and Housing

Joelle Ridgeway reported that Bolling Haxall wrote a letter regarding handicap accessibility at Graul's parking lot on Taylor Avenue. Joelle plans to follow up and will talk to the management company about making sure that Grauls parking lot meets ADA standards for accessible parking.

Children/Education/Recreation

Colleen Yanchulis reported the committee has been looking at how to provide adults, ages 21- 54, social activities and recreational opportunities. The committee has been doing research on how the county stacks up to surrounding jurisdictions and plans to submit a series of recommendations to the commission. The committee is also identifying ways that the library and the school systems could support the commission to help get programs and/or opportunities off the ground.

Executive Committee

Debra Luziatti-Myers reported that the Executive Committee has been working on Disability Awareness Day, the nominations, and the elections.

Legislative Matters

Ginger Palmer has drafted a letter about handicap parking fines and the law. The committee will send the letter out for review through proper channels starting with ADA Coordinator's office.

The committee will begin reviewing legislative bills in January and follow through the end of the session.

Membership

Iris Littig reported that the county executive has appointed some new members who will be attending the upcoming meetings. The nomination process for new officer recommendations went very well.

Public Relations

Brandi Francis reported the committee has been talking with the transportation committee on some public service announcements with Peg Studios on parking and service dogs.

Public Safety Outreach

Nancy Jenkins reported on a meeting with a representative from the Anne Arundel County Detention Center and Sergeant Snyder from the Anne Arundel County Police Department. They discussed the database that the police and fire departments share to identify people with disabilities, and the type of systems that are presently in place for these departments for various types of disabilities. The committee will be following up to identify what other systems could be utilized and their affordability.

A training class for a single officer of the police department has been scheduled for November 2, 2016. The next group training session is scheduled for November 7, 2016 with the Anne Arundel County Fire Department.

Transportation

Jeanne Elion reported that an area of Amos Garrett Boulevard is not wheelchair accessible and is making it impossible for those in wheelchairs to cross the street. The committee is looking into this issue with the city of Annapolis and will report back to the commission.

Richard Scordo reported on a capital improvement project for the Harker Street bus stop. The project is slated for Spring of 2017.

Alliance

No Report

Ex-Officio Reports

Wendy Scarborough from Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks announced that the non-profit Recreation Deeds for Special Needs Inc. has received a \$21,000 grant to help to promote more adaptive recreation activities through Anne Arundel County

Announcements

Joelle Ridgeway announced that a congratulations letter is being mailed out to Greg Africa on behalf of the commission on winning the “2016 County Engineer of the Year” Award presented by the County Engineers Association of Maryland.

Adjournment