



Agenda
Village of Arlington Heights
Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
Buechner Room
33 S. Arlington Heights Rd, 60005
September 12, 2023
6:30 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. August 15, 2023 Minutes

IV. REPORTS

- A. Commission Vacancies

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Transportation Roundtable
- B. Pedestrian Traffic Signals
- C. Disability Employment Awareness Award

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Affordable Housing

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Persons with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services, such as an American Sign Language interpreter or written materials in accessible formats, should contact Erin Mercado, at 33 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005, emercado@vah.com or (847)368-5793.



Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
9/12/2023

Item: Minutes

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

August 15th, Minutes

Type

Agreement

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
COMMISSION FOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES
August 15th, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Arlington Heights Commission for Citizens with Disabilities was called to order by Chairman Ramsey at 6:31 PM in the Health and Human Services Conference Room at Village Hall.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Michelle Ramsey, Chairman
Roxanne Calibraro
Seth Goldberg
David McCallum
Eva Mullinax
Sheryl Letwat

Also present: Nicole Espinoza, Social Services Coordinator, Liaison
Erin Mercado, Social Worker – Disability & Geriatric
Services, Liaison
Stacey Stapleton-Sign Interpreter
Mary Neff-Resident

Absent: Brian Harrison

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Goldberg to approve the minutes of the May 2023 meeting. Seconded by Commissioner McCallum and approved by unanimous consent. Chairman Ramsey abstained.

IV. REPORTS

A. Commission Vacancies

Liaison Espinoza reported Mayor Hayes has received two applicants for the vacant Commission seats.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. DISABILITY DAY

Liaison Espinoza reported the event was well attended by residents and Commissioners. Commissioner Goldberg concurred. Liaison Espinoza asked the Commission if they would like to purchase Commissioner shirts for future events. Commissioner Mullinax motioned that the Commission wait until the November

meeting to purchase shirts. Fellow Commissioners agreed unanimously. Liaison Espinoza asked if the Commission would like a sign purchased for events. Commissioners unanimously stated they felt a sign would be beneficial.

B. DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS AWARD

Liaison Espinoza reported the Village has posted award information on Village social media sites and sent the information to business. Liaison Espinoza also reported the Commission has received three applications thus far, all of which are for Gerry's Café. Commissioner Goldberg and Commissioner Letwat stated they are pleased there are applicants. Commissioner Goldberg requested the award be posted in the Daily Herald. Liaison Espinoza stated Communications Coordinator Avis Meade had provided the post to all media outlets, but that Liaison Espinoza would follow-up relative to the Daily Herald.

C. TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT

Liaison Espinoza reported the Transportation Summit has been renamed to Transportation Round Table. The event will occur on August 30th from 5:00-6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. RTA, Metra, Wheeling Township, and Elk Grove Township have agreed to attend. PACE has not responded to the invitation. Attendees will present on current services, ridership numbers, number of denials, determination of services, and realistic solutions for increased in services. Questions and perceived transportation gaps will be provided to the attendees. Commissioners will have 3 minutes each to provide non-confrontational concerns and comments. Commissioner Goldberg asked why taxi companies, Uber and Lyft were not invited. Liaison Espinoza reported the planning committee determined the Transportation Roundtable would be focused on public transportation. Commissioner Goldberg stated he feels taxi companies, Uber and Lyft are public transportation. Liaison Espinoza reiterated they are private companies. Chair Ramsey asked which commissioners will be able to attend. Commissioner Calibraro and Commissioner Mullinax stated they have attended the subcommittee and plan to attend.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Pedestrian Traffic Signals

Commissioner Calibraro reports she attended an event in which the company Polara presenting information on Accessible Crosswalk Systems. Commissioner Calibraro states she was very impressed with the system which is compatible with smart phones. Commissioner Calibraro states the City of Chicago is replacing over 200 crosswalks with accessible options. Commissioner Calibraro advocated that the Village consider replacing crosswalks at least on the Village campus. Commissioner Mullinax stated some streets may be considered state roads and therefore may not be under the Village's purview to alter. Commissioner Goldberg stated he would like Polara to come to a Commission meeting to present on their product. Commissioner Calibraro will contact Polara to see if they can attend a Commission meeting.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. 2023 MEETING DATES

Commissioner Goldberg asked if meetings will be held consistently. Liaison Espinoza stated meetings are being held bi-monthly per the May Commission vote. Liaison Espinoza reminded the Commission that the July Commission meeting was cancelled due to lack of a quorum. Liaison Espinoza reminded the Commission that the Commission requested to meet in August to make up for the July meeting. Commissioner Goldberg asked for a schedule of future meetings to be sent. Liaison Espinoza provided the dates and times of upcoming meetings and events verbally and will follow-up via e-mail with the Commission. Commissioner Calibraro asked if there is a Committee of the Whole meeting on October 16th which is the date of the Disability Employment Awareness Award. Liaison Espinoza will follow-up with the Village Manager's office to confirm the event time and to see whether there is a Committee of the Whole meeting. Chair Ramsey asked Commissioners whether the Commission should meet in November. Commissioners voted 4:2 to vote in September as to whether a November meeting is needed.

B. NEWLY DISABLED INDIVIDUALS

Commissioner McCallum expressed concerns about individuals who are newly disabled. Commissioner McCallum shared that his wife is newly disabled and struggling to know where to go for assistance. Commissioner Goldberg stated he does not feel there is enough of a focus on individuals with intellectual disabilities. Liaison Espinoza stated Disability Social Worker, Erin Mercado, is a resource for all residents who are in need of assistance for Disability Services. Liaison Espinoza stated services include fall reduction programs, home modification, resource connectivity, home visits, connectivity to adaptive equipment. Liaison Espinoza shared that Erin Mercado is the ADA Coordinator for the Village and that there are staff in the Building Department who are also well versed in ADA. Commissioner Goldberg and Commissioner McCallum stated they do not feel residents know about the services offered at the Village. Liaison Espinoza shared the Social Services Division participates in 1-2 marketing events monthly and creates 1-4 social media posts about services which are shared on the Village's social media platforms. Liaison Espinoza stated the Social Services Division worked with over 2,100 residents in 2022. Liaison Espinoza encouraged Commissioners to share ideas on topics they would like to see highlighted in social media posts.

C. RESIGNATION

Chairman Ramsey shared she is resigning as Chair of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities effective this evening. Chairman Ramsey stated she has enjoyed her time on the Commission, but is working towards her Doctoral degree and thus does not have time to commit. Liaison Espinoza thanked Chairman Ramsey for her leadership and time on the Commission.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A. Resident Mary Neff stated she came to the Commission meeting because she has a son who is profoundly Autistic. Mary states her son has been rejected from over 30 residential settings due to externalizing behaviors. Mary states she has not had success in getting her son into housing through Clearbrook and is fearful he will age out of his current housing without a future plan. Mary advocated that modern, affordable housing and group homes be created in Arlington Heights. Mary stated that every new high-rise should have a group home in it. Mary stated the Village Board passed plans to rebuild the Senior Center and she believes a group home should be built into this plan. Liaison Espinoza clarified the re-model of the Senior Center has not been passed. Mary Neff encouraged Commissioners to look at the Prairie Haus in New Glarus Wisconsin which cost \$300,000 and provides group home housing to 5 people. Mary stated that model is what she would like to advocate for in Arlington Heights. Liaison Espinoza shared that Arlington Heights has Hart's Place and Goedke House, along with several CILAs and group homes through Clearbrook and Accession. Liaison Espinoza shared there is also Philhaven in Mount Prospect. Mary Neff states she believes additional group homes/affordable housing should be placed at the Senior Center and across from North School Park and wants the Commission to advocate for affordable housing. Commissioner Calibraro states affordable housing is outside of the purview of the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities and encouraged Mary Neff to attend the Housing Commission or the Planning Commission. Commissioner Goldberg disagreed and asked that affordable housing be discussed at the September meeting. Mary Neff also stated the Wheeling 708 Board was nullified, and she is displeased with this. Liaison Espinoza explained the Village is not responsible for the 708 Board. Liaison Espinoza shared that Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs) may be an appropriate level of care for Mary to explore. Liaison Espinoza offered to stay after the meeting to provide resources to Mary including the Social Services brochure, Counseling Subsidy brochure, ICF list, Affordable Housing List, and the Supportive Housing List.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Goldberg, seconded by Commissioner Calibraro, and approved by unanimous consent. Meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.



Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
9/12/2023

Item: Vacancies

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Type

No Attachments Available



Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
9/12/2023

Item: pedestrian Traffic signals

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Type

No Attachments Available



Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
9/12/2023

Item: Disability employment awareness award

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Type

No Attachments Available



Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
9/12/2023

Item: Housing

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Type

No Attachments Available