



Agenda
Village of Arlington Heights
Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
Health Department Conference Room -33 S. Arlington Heights Rd., AH 60005

March 12, 2024
6:30 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of February 13th, 2024 Minutes

IV. REPORTS

- A. Announcements
Wi-Fi reminder

V. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Transportation Summit
- B. Frontier days funding vote
- C. ADA Grievances
Caregiver parking

VI. NEW BUSINESS

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
3/12/2024

Item: Minutes

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

February 13th, 2024 Minutes

Type

Agreement

COMMISSION OF CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES MEETING
Buechner Room
33 S. Arlington Heights Rd, 60005
February 13th, 2024
6:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Commissions of Citizens with Disabilities was called to order by Chairman Letwat, and seconded by Commissioner Harrison, at approximately 6:31 PM in the Buechner Room at Village Hall.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Sheryl Letwat, Chairman
Seth Goldberg
David McCallum
Eva Mullinax
Roxanne L. Calibraro
Beth Deiter
Jennifer Durkin
Pamela McVoy

Also present: Erin Mercado, Liaison, Social Worker, ADA Coord.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

One amendment is to be regarding the date of the meeting, changing from January 9th corrected as February 13th, 2024. Liaison Mercado agreed to amend and submit to VAH Administration upon approval.

Commissioner Durkin moved to approve as amended. Commission Deiter seconded and approved by unanimous consent.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. NO NEW ANNOUCMENTS

The Commissioners did not present new announcements.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. TRANSPORTATION SUMMIT

Commissioner Durkin reported he awareness of NSSCO representative who attended the RTA PACE meeting. Commissioner Durkin added she know Bianca Diaz is the current Mobility Outreach Coordinator.

Liaison Mercado offered to share an updated informational sheet of RTA contacts which was provided to her from Senior Citizens Commissions Liaison, Tracey Colagrossi.

Commissioner Goldberg expressed concern related to follow up of needed services regarding the RTA. Chairman Letwat suggested a letter writing campaign as an option. Commissioner Goldberg responded he would prefer to collaborate further with the Senior Commission for transportation service advocacy. Commissioner Calibraro stated a need for additional support related to funding decreasing for local and regional transportation services.

Commissioner Mullinax recommended continuing to express concerns, and encouraged attending public hearing including Metra. Commissioner Calibraro responded she believes the Metra, RTA, and CTA meet quarterly or once monthly. Commissioner Mullinax also noted as more people return to work, ridership may be impacted.

Chairman Letwat proposed the question to the Commissioners about what kind of changes are needed related to transportation services. Commissioner Harrison evaluated that Chicago has 'affordable taxis. Commissioner Goldberg spoke of his travels downtown, approximately once weekly and described his observations of a multitude of accessible vehicles, including taxis and Uber services.

Commissioner Deiter discussed the idea of learning from our fellow local municipalities and their process of access to accommodating affordable vehicles. Commissioner Harrison shared he was informed The Village of Glen Ellyn may have an abundance of accessible vehicles. Commissioner Durkin presented an idea about sub-contracting accessible vans from Wheeling Township. Commissioner Mullinax stated Elk Grove Village and Wheeling Township may have barriers with sub-contracting related to insurance and/or staffing.

Commissioner Harrison stated he will attempt to contact Glen Ellyn for additional research. Commissioner Goldberg offered to research The Village of Buffalo Grove and Chicago's funding and accessible taxi programs.

The Commissioners held a discussion regarding the potential for grant writing for funding for transportation resources in the future. Liaison Mercado offered coordination with VAH employee. Commissioner Durkin also stated she knows someone who may be available to write grants.

Commissioner Mullinax mentioned she believes PACE may be investing in Uber or Lyft for future accessibility for consumers. Commissioner Harrison reviewed an experience he had with Lyft. Commissioner Mullinax suggested including Illinois State Representative, Mary Beth Canty and Commissioner Maggie Trevor on communication related to transportation and funding. Liaison Mercado agreed

and added their observed interest and attendance at the recent Transportation Roundtable

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. ADA GRIEVANCES

i. Caregiver Parking

Liasion Mercado discussed the ongoing concern of residents related to lack of accessible parking. A group discussion was held on the topic of caregivers parking in the Village of Arlington Heights, and the potential disruption to care of those with disabilities, due to caregivers needing to re-pay for a parking spot or the need to move their vehicles in a limited time parking space.

A consideration was proposed and by Liasion Mercado and The Commissioners discussed advocating for a way of identify vehicles of caregivers and allowing additional parking space time as not to disrupt care giver duties i.e., activities of daily living assistance. The Commissioners agreed to research further including identifying the concern in more depth. Liasion Mercado recommended putting together an outline/template of research. Commissioner Calibraro stated the Police Department may eventually have to be involved as well.

ii. Accessible Parking Spaces

The Commissioners continued a discussion regarding accessible parking Commissioner Dieter shared a specific example and Liasion Mercado offered follow up grievance support. Commissioner Goldberg also shared an experience about lack of accessibility at a local theme park.

Commissioner Goldberg requested if VAH staff can look over the downtown parking spaces as they are observed to have yellow outlines fading. Liasion Mercado agreed to follow up with VAH and report back.

Commissioner McVoy and Chairman Letwat shared resources related to accessible parking including 'Park Smart Cards' and a 'Park Smart app'.

B. FRONTIER DAYS & FUNDING

Liasion Mercado announced the request for confirmation of the upcoming Frontier Days donation. Commissioner Goldberg and Chairman Letwat discussed the past years' funding amounts. The Commissioners inquired about the budget for 2024. Liaison Mercado stated she would inquire further and report back.

The Commissioners agreed by unanimous consent that the vote for funding of Frontier Days shall be formal on next month's agenda.

VII. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. COMMISSION MEETING DATES

The Commission confirmed the following meeting dates:

- Tuesday, March 12th, 2024
- Tuesday, May 14th, 2024
- Tuesday, July 9th, 2024
- Tuesday, September 10th, 2024
- Tuesday, November 12th, 2024

B. EVENT DATES

The Commissioners reviewed their history of involvement in past events including the Fourth of July Parade. The Commissioners discussed the benefits and challenges of utilizing events as an opportunity for marketing. A general discussion was held about ways to marketing information about the Commission for Citizens with Disabilities.

C. BENEFITS

The Commissioners shared advice and suggestions to Liasion Mercado's request about obtaining Social Security benefits. The Commissioners provided resources including local agencies

VIII. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A. TRANSPORTATION RESOURCE

An employee of a non-emergency medical transportation provided their detailed contact and service information.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Goldberg, seconded by Commissioner Harrison, and approved by unanimous consent. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.