



Agenda
Village of Arlington Heights
Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
Buechner Room-33 S. Arlington Hts. Rd., AH

May 9, 2023
7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 11, 2023

IV. REPORTS

A. Resignations

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Meeting Frequency
Advisory Topics

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

VIII. 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
5/9/2023**

Item: Minutes

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

April 11, 2023 Minutes

Type

Agreement

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
COMMISSION FOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES
April 11th, 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 7:00 PM in the Buechner Room at Village Hall.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Also present: Mayor Thomas Hayes, Guest Presenter
Nicole Espinoza, Social Services Coordinator, Liaison
Erin Mercado, Social Worker – Disability & Geriatric Services, Liaison

Absent: Brian Harrison
Jackie McCarty

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner McMahon to approve the minutes of the April 2023 meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Calibraro and approved by unanimous consent. Chairman Ramsey abstained.

IV. REPORTS

A. MAYOR'S STATEMENT

Mayor Hayes informed the Commission of its purpose and intent, which is to act as an advisory board which helps for the betterment of community and speaks to the needs of the residents the Commission represents. Mayor Hayes provided recommendations on the art of good governing. Mayor Hayes provided information relative to the number of events other Commissions host. Mayor Hayes emphasized the ultimate purpose of the Commission is to advise to the Board of Trustees. Mayor Hayes opened the conversation to the Commissioners for questions. Commissioner Letwat inquired about meeting frequency. Mayor Hayes provided options of monthly, call of the Chair, or Quarterly. Mayor Hayes

also stated meetings may be cancelled at the desire of the chair. Mayor Hayes stated most Commissions meet quarterly or by call of the Chair. Commissioner Calibraro suggested the Commission survey the community to find out what current needs are for those with disabilities. Mayor Hayes stated the Commission is the subject matter experts and can make recommendations to the Board of Trustees. Mayor Hayes also suggested the Commission survey be incorporated into a larger community survey to avoid duplication. Mayor Hayes stated Commission cannot be solely event driven. Commissioner McMahon supported Commissioner Calibraro's suggestion. Commissioner Calibraro voiced a concern with accessibility and the traffic lights. Commissioner McCallum communicated the importance of insight from people who have recently become disabled. Commissioner McMahon mentioned past activities of the Commission including educational videos about disability awareness. Commissioner Mullinax reported transportation and housing as a concern. Mayor Hayes recommended the Commission create list of the top ten topics of concern that the Commission could focus on as advisory topics.

Commissioner Letwat discussed participation in events and fundraisers not being mandated by the Municipal Code. Commissioner Letwat advocated that the Commission participate in Disability Day and review participation in other events. Commissioner Letwat also requested to reduce the frequency of meetings. Commissioner Mullinax and Liaison Espinoza reiterated that attendance at events is not required in order to be in good standing on the Commission. Mayor Hayes reiterated the same. Commissioner Calibraro asked a question regarding sub-committees and meeting outside of designated Commission meetings. Mayor Hayes reminded the Commission of the Open Meetings Act, which states that two or more Commissioners cannot meet to discuss Commission business, Village business or policies outside of the Commission Meeting. Mayor Hayes stated Commissioners may meet to plan an event. Mayor Hayes reiterated that most Commissions have one to three events annually. Mayor Hayes recommended the Commission use the Democratic process of voting in order to prioritize which events the Commission will be hosting.

Chairman Ramsey recommended the Commission balance its focus between advocacy issues and events. Chairman Ramsey reiterated that attendance at events is not mandated by the Municipal Code and that the expressed intent/purpose of the Commission is to be an advisory board. Chairman Ramsey advised the Commission focus on three advisory topics and three events. Commissioner Calibraro discussed physical limitations in walking in the parade. Commissioner Goldberg stated he believes the Commission needs to prioritize events, and stated that is one of the reasons he joined the Commission. Commissioner Goldberg clarified he does not believe everyone has to be at every event. Commissioner Goldberg also stated Commissioners participate out of care for the community and to raise awareness. Commissioner Goldberg also advocated for a survey for individuals with disabilities to assess their needs.

Commissioner Letwat asserted it is not the Commission's responsibility to act as a marketing body and requested change occur relative to this.

Commissioner McMahon stated hosting events and attendance have not been an issue in the past. Commissioner McMahon also recalled when she joined The Commission, she committed to determining what was the most important. Commissioner McMahon shared the history regarding networking and fundraising within the Commission. Mayor Hayes thanked the Commissioners and exited the meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 6-508

Liaison Espinoza reviewed the role of the Liaison and reiterated the Liaison does not coordinate events. The Liaison attends events. Liaison Espinoza suggested each Commissioner attend a different Commission meeting to evaluate how other Commissions operate.

B. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The Commission unanimously voted on the following six strategic priorities which will be sent to the Village Mayor and then presented to the Board of Trustees relative to the Village Board's Strategic Priorities for 2024-25.

- 1) Transportation: addressing transportation gaps, improving accessible options, having affordable options
- 2) Housing: having affordable, accessible options
- 3) Snow Removal
- 4) Safety/Accessibility for individuals with disabilities in general
- 5) Understanding the needs of individuals with disabilities: include questions related to disabilities in Village surveys

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. EVENTS & BUDGET

Liaison Espinoza informed The Commission of the current budget. The Commission voted on which events it will conduct in 2023. Disability Day, the Disability Employment Awareness Award, and the Transportation Summit were selected. The Commission determined they will not participate in the 4th of July Parade, the Knights of Columbus fundraiser, and will not host a presentation in 2023.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. NONE

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner McMahon seconded by Commissioner Goldberg, and approved by unanimous consent. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.



Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
5/9/2023

Item: Resign

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Type

No Attachments Available



Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
5/9/2023

Item: None

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Type

No Attachments Available



Commission for Citizens with Disabilities
5/9/2023

Item: Advisory

Department: HHS

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Type

No Attachments Available