



# City of Fall River Massachusetts

## COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

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FALL RIVER, MA

**PAUL E. COOGAN**  
*Mayor*

**Dennis Polselli**  
Chairman

**Debbie Pacheco**  
Vice-Chairwoman

**Minutes of the Fall River Commission on Disability  
Conference Call Meeting  
Wednesday, April 14, 2021  
2:00 PM**

Chairman Dennis Polselli called the meeting to order at 2:01pm

1. Chairman Dennis Polselli opened the meeting by reading the Open Meeting Law statement.
2. **Members Present:** Chairman Dennis Polselli; Vice Chairwoman Debbie Pacheco; Commissioner Daniel Robillard; Commissioner Lisa Silva; Commissioner Ann O'Neil-Sousa

**Others Present:** Catherine Destremps, Health Department Clerk

**Members Absent:** Attorney Gary Howayeck ESQ, ADA Coordinator

3. **Public Input:** No public input.
4. **Approval of the minutes for the meeting of Wednesday, March 10, 2021**

Motion made by Commissioner Daniel Robillard to accept the minutes from the Commission on Disability meeting from Wednesday, March 10, 2021.

Second: Commissioner Lisa Silva

All in favor; none opposed; abstentions; 0

Motion made by Commissioner Daniel Robillard to amend the minutes to reflect Vice Chairwoman Debbie Pacheco as absent at the Commission on Disability meeting from Wednesday, March 10, 2021.

Second: Commissioner Ann O'Neil-Souza

All in favor; none opposed; abstentions; 0

## 5. Work Group Updates

- a. ADA Updates: Dennis Polselli stated the commission is continuing to work with Mr. Perry on the audible pedestrian signals and other safety issues regarding street, sidewalk and curb cuts in the city. The commission is also going to be working as a work group to take back a report to the full commission on the status of the ADA Improvement Grant. This grant was for the ADA updates within the Government Center. Dennis hopes to have a progress report by the next meeting which is scheduled for May, or by the latest in June.
- b. Policies: No updates, at this time.
- c. Finance: Current Pooled cash totaled \$266,865.18, as of March, 2021.
- d. Outreach: Commissioner Lisa Silva stated that there will be a total of ten (10) scholarships at \$3,000.00 each. Five (5) scholarships will be given to Durfee, three scholarships given to Diman, and two (2) scholarships will be given to Connelly. Dennis Polselli will be drawing up a letter with the requirements needed to be eligible for the scholarship, which will be sent to each school. It will be up to each school to pick the students to be awarded.

The work group had a discussion about having an awards lunch to be held at McGovern's Restaurant on June 12, 2021 at 1pm for the recipients of the scholarships. A representative from each school would be invited and each student would be allowed two (2) guests. The lunch would include a chicken dinner with desert. The price would be \$17.95 per plate and must have a guarantee of 50 people.

Motion was made by Daniel Robillard to allocate an amount not to exceed six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) to the scholarship awards luncheon to be held on Saturday, June 12, 2021 at 1pm at McGovern's Restaurant located at 310 Shove St., Fall River, MA.

Second: Commissioner Lisa Silva

All in favor; none opposed; abstentions; 0

## 7. Old Business: No updates, at this time.

ADA Coordinator: Gary P. Howayeck, Esq. 508-324-2650

One Government Center ● Fall River, MA 02722 ● Tel (508) 324-2410

8. **New Business:** Next meeting Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 2pm via conference call.

9. **Adjournment at 2:19pm**

Motion to Accept: Vice Chairwoman Debbie Pacheco

Second: Commissioner Ann O'Neil-Souza

All in favor; none opposed; abstentions; 0

**Documents Distributed**

Agenda

Minutes from the meeting of March 10, 2021