**City of Fall River**

#### Massachusetts

**COMMISSION ON DISABILITY**



**Paul e. Coogan**

***Mayor***

 **Dennis Polselli**

Chairman

**Debbie Pacheco**

Vice-Chairwoman

**Minutes of the Fall River Commission on Disability**

**Conference Call Meeting**

**Wednesday, September 13th, 2023**

**3:00 PM**

Chairman Dennis Polselli called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm

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 Lisa Silva; Commissioner Dan Robillard; Commissioner Ann O’Neil-Souza

**Others Present:** Sandy Berube Health Department Clerk

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

1. **Introduction of new Commissioners:** Joseph Rioux and Attorney Maiza Silva

Chairman Dennis Polselli explains that Joseph Rioux has decided not to join us but that Attorney Maiza Silva will be getting sworn in next week and will be joining us for the first time in our October meeting when we will be welcoming our new Commissioner.

1. **Public Input:** No public input.
2. **Approval of the minutes for the meeting of June 14th , 2023**

Motion made by Commissioner Dan Robillard to accept the minutes from the Commission on Disability meeting from Wednesday, June 14th, 2023

Second: Commissioner Ann O’Neil Souza and Commissioner Lisa Silva

All in favor; None opposed; Abstentions; 0

1. **Election of Officers:**

**a. Chair**

Motion made by Commissioner Dan Robillard to nominate Chairman Dennis Polselli as the Chairman of the Fall River Commission on Disability.

Second: Commissioner Lisa Silva & Commissioner Ann O’Neil-Souza

All in favor; None opposed; Abstentions; 0

**b. Vice-Chair**

Motion made by Commissioner Dan Robillard to nominate Vice-Chairwoman Debbie Pacheco as the Vice-Chairwomen of the Fall River Commission on Disability.

Second: Commissioner Lisa Silva & Commissioner Ann O’Neil-Souza

All in favor; None opposed; Abstentions; 0

**c. Secretary**

Motion made by Commissioner Dan Robillard to nominate Commissioner Lisa Silva as the Secretary of the Fall River Commission on Disability.

Second: Commissioner Ann O’Neil-Souza

All in favor; None opposed; Abstentions; 0

1. **Work Group Updates:**
2. ADA Updates:

Chairman Dennis Polselli discusses the variance for Battleship cove that was denied on our June 14th meeting. A hearing is scheduled for August but they did not have a quorum so they have since had to reschedule the meeting for the architectural access board on Monday October 30th at 11:00A.M virtually. Mr. Polselli will make sure to get access to the link and share it with all of the Commissioners.

Mr. Polselli then explains that the ADA Work Group will be meeting with the City Engineer Dan Aguiar and the Assistant City Planner Chris Parayno on September 27th at 2P.M. They will discuss the possibility of applying for an ADA Improvement Grant to have a complete transition plan for the City’s streets, sidewalks, curb cuts, auto-able pedestrian signals, etc. This will be similar to the transition plan that we have in place for buildings. Mr. Polselli is hoping to get the same vendor as long as we actually get the grant. The deadline is September 15th so we will be updated on September 27th on which project gets the grant.

1. Policies: Vice-Chairwomen Debbie Pacheco: No Updates at this time
2. Finance: ( See Budget Report for June & August, 2023)
3. Outreach:

Commissioner Dennis Polselli talks about how the Scholarship luncheon was very successful He would like to make some changes so that things will be a little bit easier because the current process is too time consuming. Mr. Polselli has been researching how other organizations give the Scholarships out. Whether it be directly to the student or the school. Most schools give them directly to the individual which is something that he might consider.

Commissioner Dan Robillard does not support giving the scholarships directly to the individuals. This item will be further discussed at the next meeting.

1. **Old Business:** No updates at this time
2. **New Business:** Next Meeting will be Wednesday October 18th, 2023 3:00P.M.
3. **Adjournment at 3:20 P.M**

Motion made by Vice-Chairwomen Debbie Pacheco to adjourn

Second: Commissioner Lisa Silva

All in favor; none opposed; Abstentions; 0

 **Documents Distributed**

 Agenda

 Minutes from the meeting of June 14th, 2023

 Budget Report for June, July & August, 2023