

Stamford Access 4 All, Mayor's Committee
Meeting Date: 04/14/16, 12:30 pm
Location: Mayor's Conference Room, 10th Floor

Attending: F.J. Mercede, P. Magalnick, M. Levine, J. Ruotolo

M I N U T E S

Meeting began at 12:40 pm. FJ welcomed all in attendance.

Review of minutes from 3/17/16 meeting. Motion to approve by Marty Levine. Seconded by John Ruotolo. Passed unanimously.

Marty Levine reported that he now has a draft of the consultant's report that he will forward onto FJ. He said they did a very thorough job and pointed out many issues at the Government Center. He also met with them at Scalzi Park and they pointed out issues such as bocci court benches only in grassed areas not accessible to wheelchairs and although the new bathrooms are compliant, the old one nearest to the playground is not.

Marty also reported that the City received a complaint from a person with a hearing deficit who had trouble hearing at a Zoning meeting. The City currently does not own hearing impaired devices so Marty has set up a demonstration on 4/21 at 11:30 am at the Training Room on the 6th Floor at the Gov't Center to choose devices that the City will purchase. Marty has invited this person to attend.

Marty finally reported that he received a complaint from a person with Cerebral Palsy who was stopped by a Police Officer driving his scooter device on a City street stating that he required a license. Marty checked with Chief Fontneau and discovered that indeed he was not required a license based on the size of the motor of the scooter. The man was given a letter from the Police Department evidencing this and when he was stopped again, by the same Police Officer, he presented the letter and all was well.

John Ruotolo suggested that it was important that this Committee send out reminders for future meetings. Marty and Phil agreed that it would be helpful so that we had more members in attendance. FJ said he would take care of these notifications.

John Ruotolo reported that the new Café Ordinance compliance has been going relatively smoothly given that it started on March 15th. There has been pushback by one restaurant and its building owner so John will be arranging a meeting with them, FJ and Ernie Orgera in the near future to discuss the issues. John also mentioned that it is a little problematic without the map that we had previously discussed and the eventual pinning of the designated areas for the Cafes so that enforcement will be easier. FJ noted that he feels fairly certain that there may be restaurants that are not downtown and which have cafes but may not be aware of the new Ordinance. John will be reaching out to Ron Miller from the Health Department to see if he can attend next month's meeting to discuss how this may be addressed when his staff is out doing their inspections.

John also suggested the idea of having a discussion with Bobby DeMarco, Chief Building Inspector, regarding enforcement of not allowing door swings into City property (sidewalks). A meeting will be organized between Bobby, John and FJ.

Phil reported that he had a meeting with Alice Knapp, President of Ferguson Library about having Sensitivity Training for her staff and helping to establish Accessibility Links with the Library. He also reported that he is trying to set up a meeting with Elana Sherman of the Department of Protection and Advocacy to establish a training session for accessibility at the polls for the upcoming Presidential Elections. He has already discussed this with Donna Loglisci, Town Clerk and they will also reach out to the Registrar of Voters.

FJ reported that we really need to get back to a timeline similar to what Kris proposed last year. We need to identify tasks, assign members and set deadlines for completion.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:10 pm.

Next meeting will be held on May 12th, at 12:30 pm at the Mayor's Conference room on the 10th floor of the Government Center.