

Commission on Disabilities - Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

September 9, 2024

Present: Billy Huang, Lena Esposito, Bobby Berriault, Tricia Palluzzi

Absent: Annie Harper and Carmen Correa-Rios

Staff: Gretchen Knauff

Commissioners in Waiting: Rebecca Miller, Beverly Kidder

I. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order by Chair B. Huang at 6:10 PM.

II. Approval of the Minutes for July 8, 2024 – Billy Huang made a motion to accept the minutes and Tricia Palluzzi seconded. The minutes passed unanimous!

III. Commission Catch Up – The Commission did not meet in August 2024, Commissioners were asked to update everyone on what they were doing and ideas they had for the disability community in New Haven.

- Lena Esposito suggested we do more public forums. During the discussion, it was determined that it might be more effective to go to outreach events rather than public forums.
- Becca Miller suggested doing outreach for CMHC. Gretchen said she would be happy to do an ADA presentation for the members if anyone is interested. Becca also said that there are friends and family events, and that the Commission may be interested in participating in those events.
- There was a short discussion on creating materials for outreach events. The Commission and the Disability Services office already have a joint flyer. It was also suggested to distribute a flyer on the ADA and accommodations.
- East Rock – there’s not been no resolution on the East Rock complaints. Bev asked for and received a summary of what’s been happening with East Rock. She was provided with a short history, including a proposed solution.
- Bobby suggested that we discuss and support 2023 SB 82 (An Act Eliminating Income and Asset Limits For The Med Connect Health Insurance Program For Working Persons With Disabilities). Had the bill passed it would have expanded Medicaid coverage for working persons with disabilities.

IV. Old Business

- Summer Gathering – Everyone agreed that we could meet at Lorenzo’s in West Haven, and that it would be accessible for them. A date was not chosen.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM.
