

# COMMITTEE CONCERNING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES MEETING MINUTES

City of Middletown

100 Riverview Center, Recreation Department

January 7, 2014

6:00 PM

**1. Members Present:** Marty Knight/Chairperson, Keith Vinci, Marie Hurley, Elderrean Paules, Phil Cacciola, Joseph Carta (via phone)

**Absent:** August DeFrance, Richard Pelletier, Steven Shapiro

**Staff Present:** Karen Nocera, Staff, Parks and Recreation, Debbie Stanley, Acting Director Recreation & Community Services

**Youth in Government Present:** Abigail Nolan

**General Public:** McKenzie Guevarez

**2. Meeting Called to Order:** Called to order at 6:00pm.

**3. Public Hearing:** none

**4. Approval of Minutes:** *A motion to approve the meeting minutes of Dec. 3, 2013, was made by Marie Hurley and seconded by Keith Vinci. The motion was passed.*

## Departmental Reports:

- Marty Knight asked Marie Hurley about the Mattabasset Project meeting. She was unable to attend the last meeting on December 30, 2013. She was on vacation.
- Ellie Paules stated that they had a New Year's Eve party at Monarca Place and that it went very well.
- Karen Nocera informed the committee that the Recreation Division brochure is about 98% completed. There are new programs that are being added to the brochure. They were able to give Christmas presents to about 450 children ages 14 and younger. They received many toys this year through the Toy Drive. The Pictures with Santa program was a success. The Recreation Division is having a Family Fun Night on Friday, January 10, 2014. The Unified Theater will be coming up on February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Joseph Carta asked whether or not there was jurisdiction over a private building. There is an issue that he is having with River's Edge Condominiums. It is difficult for him to get out of the building because the door is not accessible. Phil advised that a letter be written to the management company of the Condominium Association. Karen and Keith decided that they would go to River's Edge to see what type of system is used to enter and exit the building. A discussion ensued.
- Phil Cacciola discussed the issue of the sign language interpreter for Nelson Mandela's funeral. A discussion ensued. A disabled man in Seymour, Connecticut has tried to get the town to respond to his issues of compliance. Connecticut and its 169 Municipalities ranked near the bottom list of States in complying with the basic mandates of the ADA and the 2008 amendments to it. They have had over 20 years to comply with these mandates. A discussion ensued.
- Deb Stanley expressed to the committee that she spoke to Director Bill Russo of Public Works to remind him to keep the curb cut outs clear of snow. He said that he will make sure of it. The first

meeting of the Recreation and Community Service Department will be held after this meeting at 7:00pm. A discussion ensued.

- Marty Knight told the Committee that the dates for the CCPD meetings for the year of 2014 need to be discussed and approved.

**Old Business**

**New Business:**

**Miscellaneous:**

**Adjournment:** *A motion of adjournment was made by Marie Hurley and was seconded by Phil Cacciola. The motion carried unanimously.* The meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Bruni Runte