

COMMITTEE CONCERNING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES MEETING MINUTES

City of Middletown

61 Durant Terrace – Recreation/Community Service Building

January 6, 2015

6:00 PM

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

Absent: Richard Pelletier

Staff Present: Debbie Stanley, Acting Director, Recreation/Community Services

General Public:

2. Meeting Called to Order: Called to order at 6:04pm.

3. Public Hearing:

4. Approval of Minutes: *A motion to approve the meeting minutes of December 2, 2014, was made by Phil Cacciola and seconded by Elderrean Paules. The motion was passed. Marie Hurley abstained because she was not in attendance at the last meeting. Keith Vinci noted that there was a typo in the minutes with the word town instead of tone regarding the light signals.*

Departmental Reports:

- Marie Hurley mentioned that the project is scheduled to be completed in March 2017. There was a problem with the forced main. The forced main broke and cracked in two places. They are waiting to hear from the contractor to find out why this happened. The cost to repair will be absorbed by the contractor and not Middletown. Todd Birch resigned from the Commission and Dale Aldieri from WPCA is the new Vice Chairman. They allowed a second date for bids which are due by January 27, 2015. All of the permits will be final by the end of February. A discussion ensued.
- Elderrean Paules stated that some tenants moved out of Monarca Place because they are elderly. There are 2 empty apartments at this time. There are two residents that are blind and are located across the hall from each other. A discussion ensued.
- Joseph Carta asked about the issue with River's Edge Condominium. Joseph asked if Elanah from the Office of Protection and Advocacy has been in contact with either Marty or Laura Runte. Marty stated that Elanah Sherman has been in contact with him and Laura Runte. Elanah stated that she has been to River's Edge Condominium multiple times regarding the door issue. Joseph Carta met with Elanah on January 2, 2015. Elanah found that the door tension was two times over the State Regulations. Elite Property Management had to address the issue and that was the most that she could do because it is a private building. The door currently meets the State standards. Elanah stated that it was more of a Fair Housing issue than an ADA issue. She suggested meeting with the Board of Directors of the Condominium Association. The head of the Board of Directors for River's Edge Condominium is Robert Con. Joseph Carta suggested that the first step should be meeting with the Board of Directors to address this issue. Keith Vinci mentioned that perhaps if the media was involved it may pressure the Condominium Association to act. Keith also stated that all members should approve all letters before they are sent out. Marie Hurley made a motion to send a letter to the Office of Fair Housing and CC: Elanah from the Office of Protection and Advocacy as well as Robert Con of the Condominium Board of Directors. This letter should also

state that if this issue is not resolved, the media will be involved. The motion was seconded by Phil Cacciola. The motion passed unanimously. A discussion ensued.

- Keith Vinci asked if there was any update on getting another committee member. Marty stated that he has not heard anything about a replacement. A discussion ensued.
- Phil Cacciola suggested that Sgt. Dave Godwin be invited back to these meetings. The hope is that he can return for the March CCPD meeting. Marty stated that we have been sending a copy of the minutes to Sgt. Godwin directly. A discussion ensued.
- Debbie Stanley mentioned that Unified Theatre is in progress. The dates are in February and will be held at Keigwin. Keith Vinci is assisting with a sign language song. The Connecticut Science Center contacted the office regarding a new sensory program for those with disabilities. Karen Nocera will be bringing students at the end of January. There was a discussion about the new Senior Center building. Marty Knight asked if the age limit would be decreased if someone is disabled. The current age for the Senior Center is 60 and over. The question is, can someone attend who is under 60 but disabled. Debbie stated that this issue will have to be brought up at the next Recreation/Community Services commission meeting. A discussion ensued.

Old Business

New Business:

Miscellaneous:

Adjournment: A motion of adjournment was made by Phil Cacciola and was seconded by Marie Hurley. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Bruni Runte