



RICK KAHEN COMMISSION FOR RESIDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

7:00pm call to order

EOC Conference Room, Buffalo Grove Village Hall

I. Welcome & Call to Order at 7:02pm

II. Roll Call

- **Members Present:** Judy Samuels, Marty Sussman, Lexi Robinson, Mark Weiner, Matthew Dragon, Debbie Verson, Allie Zalay, Donna Garfield, Beth Shapiro, Jack Shapiro, Dean Klassman, Avi Samuels
- **Members Absent:** Leo Njongmeta, Larry Sweica, David Morton, Gowri Magati
- **Trustee Liaisons Present:** Les Ottenheimer, Andy Stein
- **Present:** Staff Liaison Evan Michel

III. Approval of Minutes with changes: September 22, 2021

- Motion: Mark Weiner
- Second: Donna Garfield
- In Favor: Judy Samuels, Marty Sussman, Mark Weiner, Matthew Dragon, Debbie Verson, Allie Zalay, Donna Garfield, Beth Shapiro, Jack Shapiro, Dean Klassman, Avi Samuels
- Opposed: None
- Abstain: Lexi Robinson
- *Motion approved*

IV. Chair Report

- New commissioner: Gowri Magati

V. Trustee(s) report

- Commissioner Verson asked about virtual attendance when a person is not able to attend in person. Trustee Ottenheimer shared:
 - The way the current Municipal Code is written, people can call in and talk (ie. Give report), However, they are not counted as part of the meeting quorum and cannot take part in a vote. There are exceptions as noted in the Municipal Code.
 - This is on the list for the Village Board to review.

VI. Sub-Committee report

- Bowling with Buddies – Jack Shapiro/Mark Weiner
 - Great event! Participants had a blast!
 - Way to go sub-committee – Mark, Jack, Beth, Avi, and Donna!
 - Great partnership with Rotary Club and Bowlero!
 - Thank you everyone!
 - Event was a success – great to
 - Total Cost = \$2176.06 – RKCRD cost \$1088.03
 - Sponsorships = \$1800
 - 67 total Bowlers, 131 individuals including RKCRD and Rotary Members
 - 26 individuals paid for dinner - \$160 collected for that
 - Bowlero provided bowling and arcade coupons for the goody bags
 - Do we want to do another Halloween bowling event with Rotary?

- Do we want to add another event in the Spring? Or move Bowling with Buddies around Valentines Days?
- Next year – need to discuss publicity
- Thank sponsors with letters
 - Official donation letters have been sent out from Evan
 - Can we have small notecards with the RKCRD logo printed so we can write personalized thank you notes? – Evan will check

VII. Unfinished Business

- Business Decal (Cling Ons)
 - Potential Purpose – to call out local businesses for supporting the community of individuals with disabilities with a decal that can be displayed in their business
 - Sub-committee members
 - Avi, Allie, Marty
- New badges update
 - Badge printer is broken – will be fixed
- Identification card updates – Marty Sussman
 - The program is moving along – Marty has contacted about 6 different police stations regarding the possibilities of the cards
 - Marty created a brochure for the Village of Arlington Heights Police Chief
 - If anyone has a suggestion please pass it along to Marty who will communicate it with the police chiefs of various villages who adopt the program

VIII. New Business

- Public Relations – Marty Sussman
 - Idea to create videos to advertise our events and the work we do
 - The Village is looking to hire additional employees to discuss marketing and publicizing events in the Village
 - We can utilize the Village Newsletter and social media accounts to help promote through Evan
 - To get events published in local news – go through Evan to reach out
 - There is a provision in our Commission Code of Conduct prohibiting commissioners from speaking to the press
 - January/February – create goals for what we want PR to look like / stories we want to tell so that we can take that information to the Village's PR employees
- Is the RKCRD interested in receiving some donations (ie. Used dvds / cds/ audio books etc) for distribution? – Marty Sussman
 - Not at this time
- Commission website update
 - Includes: General description, members, links to agendas/minutes
 - Can we include a list of what the Commission has accomplished?
 - Yes, coordinate it through Evan
 - Allie will help spearhead
- Brainstorming what we want to accomplish in 2022
 - Create a mission statement for the RKCRD and determine a strategic plan (January/February)
 - Possibly create an event for adults with disabilities
 - Possibly host a special needs Prom event in the Spring

IX. Good and Welfare

- Holidays are coming up! – Happy Thanksgiving next week!

X. Adjournment at 8:37pm

- Motion: Mark Weiner
- Second: Beth Shapiro
- In Favor: Judy Samuels, Marty Sussman, Lexi Robinson, Mark Weiner, Matthew Dragon, Debbie Verson, Allie Zalay, Donna Garfield, Beth Shapiro, Jack Shapiro, Dean Klassman, Avi Samuels
- Opposed: None
- Abstain: None

Next Meeting January 26, 2021

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