
Access For All – Mahwah Minutes

February 5, 2018

Opening 7:08

Attendees: Members

Township Appointees & Liaisons

Member	Attended	Absent		Member	Attended	Absent
Jennifer Whalen-Gares	X			Dot McDonough, Human Services		X
Johanna Baccan	X			Denise Shabet, CERT,	X	
Liz Yorio		X		Ben Kezmarski, Board of Ed	X	
Gary Glucoft	X			Michele Paz, Council	X	
Sue Brand		X				
Kyra Faison-Gardner		X				
Mike Kelly	X					
Don Minassian	X					
Meg Minassian		X				
Katie Ross	X					
Sue Straffin	X					

Guest Speakers

- Linda- Red Ribbon Academy
- Patrick- United Way

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Introduction of Michele and Ben, the new liaisons
3. Linda Red Ribbon Academy presentation
 - a. medical fragile population-most severe population
 - b. DDD 2,500 adults registered
 - c. The Dream is to have a day program that provides these individuals the care and treatment they need.
 - d. Age 21 education entitlement ends.
 - e. Day Program- NJCAT tier for funding. \$100K for 25 people funding required. Seed money needed for program and getting a building.
 - f. 505 individuals at home- may require nursing. 2,500 individuals in nursing homes and hospitals and not getting necessary treatment. Community Options is used by Red Ribbon.
4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes from January 8, 2018. -The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved.
5. **Communications Report- no updates from Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary**

Chairperson Update:

- Effective immediately, anything that is presented as a gift or donation (any value) to our commission needs to be presented in a letter and at times depending on amount may require to be approved by Council (advised by Twp Administration). Twp Administration is inquiring about the guidelines with Twp CFO.
- Twp Administration has advised that social media sites operated by commission can only include positive notes. We can turn on approving comments by administrator before they are posted. Jennifer asked administration to provide new process and compliance guidelines for social media. Administration advised documentation is pending.
- Jennifer followed up on special needs swings for a Mahwah playground. Jennifer left a message for Tony (DPW) to discuss.
- Denise- CERT working on a survey and confidential form. Should we advocate for these people? Police can advise on any individuals with need that we might be able to help.

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6. Mahwah Commons- Cub scouts will help build garden planters on April 28 and committee will have barbecue event at a later date. Could possibly plant items that could use at future barbecue. Price out materials. Patrick to provide specifications. At least 1 planter should be at seat level. Jennifer will get more details and expectations from scouts on process to understand if any tools are needed. Tenants should participate as well such as painting (if needed).
7. Amended Ordinance- Jennifer getting copy and will send to Mike and Don so we can follow up on bylaws
8. 2 vacancies on committee. Look to see if we need add any rules and process for new members. Gary will share copy of Mahwah Boosters bylaws for new members to see if we should add any guidelines for Access For All.
9. Invite in Merlin's Kids organization to make presentation for committee
10. Fund raising ideas- % of money for restaurant event, Go Fund Me, Lord and Taylor discount day. Everyone should bring 1 or 2 ideas for fundraisers to next meeting.
11. Camp Acorn – committee unanimously voted to raise money for Mahwah families for Camp Acorn for any fees not provided these individuals from other means. Gary will follow up with Camp Acorn to get approximate amount. Jennifer, Kyra, and Gary will setup other presentations from other camps.
12. Need to book deejay for Social Event.
13. Joe Esposito from Mahwah Pool will use Waterwheels gift for special needs individuals with aide and lifeguard. To use when needed and vendor can also provide access matts for County Park.
14. Continued discussion if we can have a large event without specifying particular cause to raise funds for future goals.

New business

- 2 members from police will rotate as MPD Liaisons- Tim and Billy with other officers will participate
- Waiting on open liaison positions from the other departments
- Open House and Stigma Free to partner for open house
- Feedback on survey waiting on and looking at other towns to compare

Meeting Adjourned 9:00 pm

Next Meeting: March 5, 2018