

City of Fall River Massachusetts

COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

JASIEL F. CORREIA II
Mayor

Dennis Polselli
Chairman

Debbie Pacheco
Vice-Chairwoman

Minutes of the Fall River Commission on Disability
Meeting held Thursday, April 11, 2019
One Government Center
City Council Chambers

Chairman Dennis Polselli called the meeting to order at 3:10 PM.

1. Commissioner Robert Rei opened the meeting by reading the Open Meeting Law statement.
2. **Public Input:** None
3. **Members Present:** Commission Chairman, Dennis Polselli; Chairwoman Debbie Pacheco; Commissioner Lisa Silva; Commissioner Cathy Ann Viveiros; Commissioner Robert Rei; Commissioner Sgt. Michael Hoar

Others Present: Peter Botelho, HHS; Erik Rousseau, SRTA Administrator; Tammy Moutinho, Project Manager for the Facilities Maintenance Department

Absent: Attorney Gary P. Howayeck, Esq., ADA

4. **Approval of Minutes: March 14, 2019**
Motion to Accept: Commissioner Sgt. Hoar
Second: Commissioner Rei
All in favor; none opposed; abstentions: 0

5. Guest Presenter: Erik Rousseau, Administrator SRTA: Annual Review of disability transportation issues.

Erik Rousseau gave an annual review on disability transportation issues. One of the biggest things going on is the Intelligent Transportation Systems project that is currently in the systems acceptance stage. Once the system acceptance goes through, SRTA will begin the burning period. What that means is, in the next few months, there will be display boards at the terminals displaying estimated time of arrivals. People will also have access on their cell phones through an app that will be available for download on Google Play and Apple. The app will only be supported by the SRTA database and be local specific. Anywhere SRTA has service, the app will be useful. Along those lines, AVL will be available for the demand response fleet. There will be motor data terminals allowing real time updates so drivers can have their manifests changed more rapidly. Stop level boarding and lighting data will be regularly updated, once all the technology is implemented.

SRTA works with the deaf community by using Mass Relay. The link and number to Mass Relay is posted on the SRTA website. Printed notices are also posted in relevant areas.

SRTA's turnaround time for the demand response application is 21 days. Temporary eligibility is granted, if it is not approved within that time. Everyone is eligible to bring a PCA with them. The PCA would not have to pay a fair. MBTA had piloted a program where they would be working with Uber, Lyft, and Curb, to subsidize rides for passengers.

6. Sub-Committee/Work Group Updates:

- a. ADA Work Group Updates: Dennis Polselli, Commission Chair
Tammy Moutinho, Project Manager for the Facilities Maintenance Department:
Updates on the ADA Transition and Self-Assessment.

Not much has changed since the last meeting on March 14th. The assessment team surveyed all the polling stations live on Election Day. The Fire Departments, Government Center, DPW, and Oak Grove Cemetery have all been surveyed. The Fire Museum, Animal Control, Senior Centers, Library, Parks & Playgrounds, Harbor Boardwalk, and Veteran Center will be next.

The assessment team will be coming to a full Commission meeting on June 13th, 2019. Valerie Fletcher has also suggested that anyone on the Commission is welcome to join the teams when they come to do their site surveys at the remaining locations.

b. Policies: Debbie Pacheco, Vice Chairwoman

No updates, at this time.

c. Finance

Reading of the Budget Report for March 2019.

As of March 31st, the Commission has \$392,343.87. Expenses so far this year have added up to \$82,543.18. This leaves the Commission with a pooled cash total in the amount of \$309,800.69.

d. Outreach: Dennis Polselli, Lisa Silva

Presenting a proposal for a social event for the disability community.

The Commission is looking to host a social event for the disability community on Saturday, June 15, 2019 at Westport Holiday Lanes. Commissioner Silva contacted Holiday Lanes and the price per person would be \$10 for two hours and that would also include bowling shoes. Pizza would be delivered from a select location. Pitchers of soda would cost \$3.50/each.

Commissioner Viveiros asked if the Commission should provide financial assistance to families who cannot afford the cost of the event. Chairman Polselli mentioned a specific proposal for funding would be brought up at the next meeting. The cost to fund 100% of the event would be around \$3,000.

7. Old Business:

Chairman Polselli is planning to contact the City Council to get on the Ordinance Committee, in regards to the handicap taxi services, after the transition plan is completed.

8. New Business:

There will be a workshop on Assistive Technology on May 10, 2019 from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM at Bristol Elder Services located at 1 Father DeValles Blvd, 2nd Floor. To RSVP, an e-mail can be sent to jstone@secil.org.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, May 9, 2019. There is no guest as of yet.

9. Adjourn:

Motion to Accept: Chairwoman Pacheco

Second: Commissioner Viveiros

All in favor; none opposed; abstentions: 0

Documents Distributed

Agenda

Minutes from the meeting of March 14, 2019

Budget Report – March 2019

Wheelchair-Accessible Taxicabs Booklet

FAQ on Taxicab Service

Assistive Technology Workshop Invite