

Westport Commission on People with Disabilities
Minutes of Meeting
Thursday, March 17, 2022 - 9:00am
ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

Attendance: Marina Derman, Stacie Curran, Doug Rivkin, Joe Anastasi,
Excused: Jim Ross, Diane Johnson, Tom Holleman (may join late)
DHS Staff: Elaine Daignault and Holly Betts

9:02am call to order

Joe Anastasi - Motion/Vote Approval of Minutes for Feb 2022 & Committee meeting
Notes of Feb 2022 - Joe 1st, Marina 2nd - All in Favor

Stacie - Quick Update on Remarkable Theater - and the event at the Westport Library the night prior. New faces, new volunteers & new workforce people came out. Good crowd. Some feedback from Selectman's office on permitting - mostly due to Levitt.

Elaine D - HS Update:

- Affordable Housing meeting coming up - See email yesterday from Human Services.
- Discussion on the \$150,000 for Development study for West Parish.
- Temple Israel - Wednesday March 23rd - 7:30pm, Community Conversation around affordable housing, what is close/convenient for transportation, etc.,
- Westport is becoming that great Town - we have started a movement.
- Discussion/Elvira's
- STAR has funding - Joe A. let's comment Jim Hood & Katie Banzhaf
- 2.5% increase request to budget - It's Budget season
- Elaine also working with Agencies - to provide Local Summer Camp opportunities
- Elaine has asked Mike Rizzo to present on the Westport Transition program - at one of our CPD meetings
- Holly - reported about new individual from STAR who is working at Senior Center as a great example of how employment for people with disabilities is working

E4E:

- Daryl DeMakes, Kaila Morgan, Margaret Pinheiro, and Elaine, all working on the Website to Launch
- (Looked/reviewed at site together - continued ideas for improvement)
- Press conference & Press release - March 29th - we can all review it first!
- Downtown association & Chamber are all on favor of the new program, other employment providers, and businesses - to all meet front steps of Town Hall on the 29th for initial launch & Elaine wants members of Commission to join if possible.

- There will be a sign language interpreter at the conference
- There will be kinks to be worked out as we roll out the program.

Meeting Adjourned.