

**Westport Commission on People with Disabilities  
Minutes of Meeting - EXECUTIVE SESSION  
Thursday September 15th 2022 - 8:30am  
ZOOM MEETING MINUTES**

Attendance: Jim Ross, Stacie Curran, Marina Derman, Diane Johnson, Doug Rivkin -  
Absent - Joe Anastasi & Tom Hollman

Elaine Daignault - Human Services

Call Meeting into Exec Session - Read and Review of By - Laws, Term (years) of  
service.

Discussion - Roles & Responsibilities - Who should be doing what.

ACTION - Elaine D - Going to check on other Board By Laws & Terms and get back to  
us following review.

Motion - Close Exec. Meeting - Diane 1st, Doug - 2nd - All in Favor

Adjourned 9:01am

---

**Westport Commission on People with Disabilities  
Minutes of Meeting  
Thursday July 21st 2022 - 9:00am  
ZOOM MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Chairman - Jim Ross, Stacie Curran, Joe Anastasi, Diane Johnson, Doug  
Rivkin. Absent - Tom Holleman

From Human Services: Elaine Daignault, Kaila Moran,

Senior Services: Sue Pfister

Guests Identified: Sal Liccione, Tom Tarrant, Harris Falk

**Minutes:** Jim Ross - Motion to approve Aug.2022- Marina 1st, Diane 2nd, All in favor

Human Services - Elaine D:

Summary

Dept Housing - \$1million Grant will be used to improve Gillespie Center & Food Pantry  
E4E - People coming in, need "Search" support and help with applications - need self-  
assessment - Kaila spending time with these individuals - Many people identify as  
having Disability, but don't qualify under DDS, etc.

Need for Job Coach program in our community - Elaine D. - with Library, requested  
\$25,000 for a position 10-15 hour position in Library- Career Counselor/Career Class  
Stacie - going to connect name to Elaine with the person doing this at Pequot Library.

October is: Disability Employment Awareness Month

Sal is working with the Governor - to acknowledge/make a proclamation & have some  
celebrations, raise awareness -

Let's show what inclusive employment looks like

**Action** - form small committee to work this event

Sue P.- Offers Senior Center - to be used as a location for involvement

Sue P.- Provides Senior Center update - Lobster event, 80 patrons, people liking being together again.

Employing 2 from STAR

4 Transition students

Doing Drug Take-back Day (Always available at Police Dept)

Elaine D - Early Nov. Mental Health Breakfast, all will be invited - Day & evening events

Also - hiring someone with a disability - It's not that big a deal - working alongside someone with a disability.

**CLUB203** - (Stacie) presents on first event - Tremendous success - expected 30-40 - got over 120 participants. There is a need for social opportunities for adults with disabilities.

We have a full year of events posted [club203.org](http://club203.org)

Doug -R - comments/praise on DJ dance Party Club203 at MOCA - first event as did Joe A.

\* Elaine D- Watch - Toquet Hall and other venues - may have # limit capacities and have to allow Westport residents priority.

\* Sue P - Offers up Senior Center for a CLUC203 event - maybe a bar-b-q and Ice Cream Emergency (fire truck transformed)

**E4E** - We presented to Greenwich Committee - Jim, Joe, Elaine & Stacie

Showed our website

They want to take it up with their Select person/Govt.

We shared our mission, partnerships, stories, police involvement, Volunteer Registry.

They wish they were a Commission vs. a Committee

It give us Permanent Prominence in the Community.

E4E - Given Oct. Employment month -

**ACTION:** get DMA to put on their website

Jim: People with Disabilities have a right to work - accommodations are okay - not killers.

We need a change of Corporate culture

Accommodations breakdown barriers so individual can be effective.

(Discussions)

Let's go back to and spotlight places doing this, employing.

**ACTION** - Elaine - will reach out to Gary Meyerson(sp) - see if he can guide is more deeply into next steps - and circulate possibilities/dates meeting next week

Discussion - next meeting - Zoom or in Person

Doug R - Zoom, or better technology in conference room for both/in-person & call in.

Jim R - Voter Registry - make awareness

Elaine - gong to ask press release for accessibility - and reminder not to have constants stand in handicap spots.

Anyone available to meet/tour Farmer's Market today at 11am - Laurie open to tour, and wants to make sure all accessible. ( Jim, Marina, Diane, Elaine)

Harris Falk: - Election Day - Pete is working with Wheels 4 you to make the polls a stop on routes.

Motion/Adjourn meeting: Stacie1st - Doug- 2nd - All in favor (10:18am)