

**WETHERSFIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014  
MINUTES**

- I. INTRODUCTIONS – Joan Haines, Sue Buckland, Kathy Kanya, Terry Hulbert, Phil Knecht, Chris Taylor, Tony Martino, Natalie Morrison
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT
- III. MINUTES OF OCTOBER 16, 2013- Terry Hulbert moved to accept the minutes. Sue Buckland 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
  - A. GROUP HOME VISITS – residents participated in November in both a regional and state bowling tournament. New athletes are currently registering for Track season that starts at the end of March.
  - B. SENIORS – Energy assistance program has been going on for residents in need. Tax relief is offered through the Town assessor’s office. There is a new on-line voting feature. The address is [www.ct.gov](http://www.ct.gov). All state websites will advertise. You may register to vote on-line if you are over 18, have a CT license and meet their requirements.

Governor appointed a new position for disability issues on 1/8.  
There are grants for aiding families with children with cognitive challenges under the age of 18.  
DSS – Food stamps allowances have been cut. When DSS was called, individuals could not access help for several consecutive days.
  - C. PARKS AND RECREATION – Kathy Kanya contacted Kathy Bagley about the Mill Woods and Willard bathrooms, regarding accessibility for a parent of a child with special needs.
  - D. TRANSPORTATION – Curtin was approved the bid for transportation for the next 3 years. \$78 remains the annual fee for those registering for the program.

An incident was reported that an individual called late at night. They were told they could not make a reservation but to call in the morning to be added. The morning dispatcher said that was not possible. You need to call the day prior.

Freedom cards can be purchased and credited with money for additional transportation options.

There has been transportation issues for pickup/drop off locations.

The next Transportation Meeting is scheduled for March 19<sup>th</sup> at the First Church Social Hall at 117 Wells Road. A Curtin representative will be present.

Tony Martino stated there is a state matching grant to approve and expand service on Fridays. This will cover Dial-A-Ride services for medical appointments to “out of network” towns.

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

Joan Haines discussed a new program in Avon called “For the Love of the Game”. It involves Avon H.S. teams and persons with disabilities. They come together to play a specific sport for 1-2 hours for enjoyment

Snow removal at the Silas Deane Hwy./Wells intersection has not met “removal standards” of 24 hours. Curb cuts not being cleared as well.

Bus transportation is responsible for shelter, trash, graffiti and snow removal at the bus stops.

Lasher Court – Once snow has cleared, review of sidewalks and accessibility standards is needed.