

MINUTES
Livable Communities Committee Meeting
Thursday, Mar 28, 2019 @ 7:00 pm
Seymour Town Hall

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 4/24/19
TIME: 8:57 AM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Members Present: Saundra Gesek, Jennifer Saksa, Thomas LaPaglia and Suzanne Reilly.

Absent: Elizabeth (Betty) Musto,

Guest Presenter: Joseph Luciano

1. Suzanne called the meeting to order @ 7:13 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** all present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Public comment:** None
4. A **Motion** was made by Tom to approve the February 28, 2019 meeting Minutes and 2nd by Saundra. Jennifer abstained. Motion Carried.
5. **Members' comments:** Suzanne had reported she has not yet ordered the free technical assistance materials from the USDOJ; she still needs to confirm that the 200 books can be mailed to the town hall first. The committee will ensure that copies were made available for the taking at the following locations: Town Hall, Police Station, Community Center, Senior Center, Library and the Down Town Associates office (if the group is still active). Suzanne shared a copy of an upcoming workshop to be held on June 18 LIVABILITY at Any Age: Let's Get Started to be held at CCSU in New Britain from 8:45 am - 4:00 pm This information was forwarded to her by Bonnie Wilkes and is sponsored by Masonicare, Central Connecticut University office of Continuing Education in collaboration with AARP CT.
6. **New business:** Joseph Luciano, a Seymour resident was invited to educate committee members on ADA requirements - "ADA ed". Joseph first introduced himself and told us about his background. He has also written a book, about his past Nursing Home experience and his Abuse and Substandard Quality of Care. The lack of public awareness of ADA requirements is often the reason for inadequate care. He mentioned the ADA Educational publications that are available for FREE, "More than 50 million Americans – 18% of our population – have disabilities, and each is a potential customer. People with disabilities are living more independently and participating more actively in their communities. He shared some of his experiences in town regarding the Fishway, the number who live in Columbus St apartments: 12 of the 38 residents are disabled, and of the 16 apartments where he resides, 1/2 of are elderly aging in place and trying to remain independent. He mentions the challenges he had with the post office. Joseph suggested we check out the ADA.gov website for technical assistance materials.

He was excited to inform us that he will be moving next month to an accessible community Whose leadership had initiative and foresight back in the 90s to begin implementing accessibility mandates of ADA. A city of about 75,000. Rapid City, located in the Black Hills of South Dakota. This location is nationally recognized as the fifth place in America rated as a Livable Community.

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7. **Old business:** Suzanne informed that group that Mary McNeil's informed her that the decision was made that the town vehicles will not be offered to volunteers to provide transportation to seniors to medical appointments due the liability.
8. Prepared the **Agenda** for **Thursday, April 25, 2019** meeting. Suzanne will check with Mark Pandolfi, the Valley Transit District Executive Director to see if he or one of his staff would be willing speak to our group at a future meeting.
9. **Public comment:** None
10. **A motion** made by Sandra and 2nd by Jennifer to **adjourn the meeting**. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by, **Suzanne Reilly, Chairperson**