

Commission on Disability Meeting  
Minutes from Wednesday, September 12, 2012  
Worcester Public Library – Banx Room  
4:30PM

**Attendance:**

**Members:** Rachel Shannon Brown, Herbert Cremer, Charles Hiamah, Deborah Malone, Pauline Piso

**Members of the Public:** Todd Fike, Jackie Norton, Scott Ricker

**Guests:** Steve Meredith, Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services; Pamela Callahan and Jeannie Michelson, City of Worcester Office of Human Services

**Staff:** Dawn E. Clark, Jayna Turchek

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting began with call to order and welcome from the chairperson, then around the room introductions. Pauline Piso has been appointed a full Commission member. The Commission congratulated her.

**Guest Speaker: Steve Meredith, Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services** The chairperson welcomed Mr. Meredith, Assistant Director at the Central Mass Regional Office. The office is located at 24 Southbridge Street in Worcester. Mr. Meredith provided the Commission with an overview as follows: After considerable advocacy of people with intellectual disabilities, families and friends their name was changed from the Department of Mental Retardation to Department of Developmental Services (DDS). People with a tested I. Q. of 70 or below are eligible for the department's services. Between 31,000 and 32,000 live with intellectual disabilities or 1-3% of the catchment (service) area which includes Worcester and the surrounding towns except Millbury and Grafton. About 1,200 adults and 500 children in the area are served. Services are provided in partnership with contracted agencies/families for care-giving responsibilities.

Clients live with life-long challenges. Two-thirds of the clients live independently or with families and one-third live with individuals with a 24 hour stipend or in group homes.

In the 1970's there was action taken to move people from institutions into the community. People were placed in skilled nursing homes and other more appropriate settings.

Questions from the Commission members commenced. Points made by Mr. Meredith in response included: The Department works on the person centered philosophy which can sometimes be difficult when parents/family have different ideas than what the client wants. DDS workers also have to be sure safety is considered as well. Chapter 688 provides for Transition Planning for those youth transitioning to adults. There is the best intention but it remains challenging given the fiscal allocation. If being home alone, example, was not safe, something would be done to provide safety such a day habilitation. If a person was found that "fell through the cracks" a team would work with the service coordinator to find appropriate setting/activity. Additionally there are currently 20 service coordinators in protective services who investigate unmet need.

A question about opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities was asked. There are socialization programs and events in the community sponsored by community agencies.

Mr. Meredith was thanked for his informative presentation and invited to stay for the rest of the meeting.

2. **Minutes:** Motion was made to accept the minutes as written by Ms. Malone. Seconded by Ms. Piso, Motion carried (Yes-4, Abstention – 1)
3. **Training/Demonstration on Use of Procedural Motions**

The Chairperson welcomed Pam Callahan and Jeanie Michelson from the City of Worcester, Office of Human Resources. Ms.

Callahan explained that Sulma Rubert-Silva from their office was to be part of the presentation, but was not able to be with them. Jayna Turchek stood in.

They preceded to conduct a mock Board of Health meeting, stopping periodically to get suggestions from Commission members on a motion that would help the meeting along when a sticking point occurred. It was made clear the Robert's Rules of Order and its' motions were to be used as a guide and were flexible for conducting meetings. There was great levity and Commissioners responded with great motion suggestions. The Chair thanked presenters.

## **5. Communications and Reports:**

### a. Chairperson

- i. The Commission was notified that Commission member David Perry had resigned. The Commission regretted this and hoped that in the future he could return to the Commission. He will be missed and will be in touch.
- ii. Future Meeting Space – The Commission's preferred room to meet, Levi Lincoln, is used by another group the same day and time as the Commission meets. In reviewing room availability in City Hall, Levi Lincoln room is available on Tuesday's in the late afternoon. The Commission agreed to change their regular meeting day to the third Tuesday of the month. The question of whether to meet at 4:00PM, 4:15PM or 4:30PM was discussed, but no decision was made and it was tabled. The next Commission meeting will be Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at 4:30 in Levi Lincoln Room at City Hall.

### b. Director of Human Rights & Disabilities

- i. Recommendations to DPW for Sidewalk Improvements – Ms. Turchek asked if there were specific sidewalks the Commissioners knew needed repairing. There was concern that there had been a request by a member of the public for the City to make repairs to the sidewalks made during City Council earlier in the summer. Ms. Turchek confirmed that the City Clerk assisted the resident to complete the petitions and that the petitions were sent to the appropriate Boards for review. Additionally, Ms. Turchek mailed a meeting notice to the individual for today’s meeting but the individual did not appear. Ms. Turchek requested members with knowledge of sidewalk, ramp, chirper etc, in need of repair, replacement or installation to please provide her with this information by October 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### **6. Old Business and Updates**

October “Bully” Event – Pre-screening event planning was stopped because the release date for the DVD has been extended til early next year. There may be opportunities to collaborate with the Bias & Hate Coalition when the dvd is released. Members are encouraged to attend the October 14th- 4pm, Community Lecture on Bullying with Lee Hirsch, Director of the film “Bully.” The event is at Tuckerman Hall and is free and open to the public.

#### **7. Member Updates & New Business**

#### **8. Announcements and Adjournment**

- a. The Office of Economic Development and the Community development Advisory Committee is

sponsoring a series of public listening sessions. Please see flyer in packet.

- b. Also in the packet is the announcement of the Harold N. Cotton Community Lecture featuring Lee Hirsch Director of the film "Bully" on Sunday, October 14, 2012.
- c. REDD and Worcester State College is sponsoring a joint Film Festival on October 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM, 1:00 PM and 3:30PM with discussion.
- d. Meeting adjourned at 6:23pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn E. Clark, Secretary Pro Tem

Board/Commission Training  
Robert's Rules of Order and Open Meeting Law  
September 12, 2012 – 5:15-6:00 PM  
Presented by Pam Callahan, Jeannie Michelson and Sulma  
Rubert-Silva  
from the Office of Human Resources

Please join us as we hold a “mock” board meeting. We will make a few mistakes along the way, but with your guidance and help we will figure out the best usage of Robert's Rules while adhering to the MA Open Meeting Law.

This interactive and light-hearted training will feature ways to use rules in order to keep meetings efficient and successful.

- Robert's Rules of Order:
  - Motions
  - Limiting or Extending Deliberation
  - Following Agenda and more
  
- Open Meeting Law:
  - Executive Session Requirements
  - Video conference
  - Agenda's, Minutes and more

All participants will receive a certificate of attendance.

## Robert's Rules of Order Motions Chart

RobertsRules.org

Based on *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (10th Edition)*

**Part 1, Main Motions.** These motions are listed in order of precedence. A motion can be introduced if it is higher on the chart than the pending motion.  
 § indicates the section from Robert's Rules.

§	PURPOSE:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2ND?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§21	Close meeting	I move to adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§20	Take break	I move to recess for ...	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
§19	Register complaint	I rise to a question of privilege	Yes	No	No	No	None
§18	Make follow agenda	I call for the orders of the day	Yes	No	No	No	None
§17	Lay aside temporarily	I move to lay the question on the table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority

§16	Close debate	I move the previous question	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§15	Limit or extend debate	I move that debate be limited to ...	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3
§14	Postpone to a certain time	I move to postpone the motion to ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§13	Refer to committee	I move to refer the motion to ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§12	Modify wording of motion	I move to amend the motion by ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§11	Kill main motion	I move that the motion be postponed indefinitely	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
§10	Bring business	I move that [or	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority



	before assembly (a main motion)	"to"] ...					
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**Part 2, Incidental Motions.** No order of precedence. These motions arise incidentally and are decided immediately.

§	PURPOSE:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2ND?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§23	Enforce rules	Point of Order	Yes	No	No	No	None
§24	Submit matter to assembly	I appeal from the decision of the chair	Yes	Yes	Varies	No	Majority
§25	Suspend rules	I move to suspend the rules	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§26	Avoid main motion altogether	I object to the consideration of the question	Yes	No	No	No	2/3
§27	Divide motion	I move to divide the question	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority

§29	Demand a rising vote	I move for a rising vote	Yes	No	No	No	None
§33	Parliamentary law question	Parliamentary inquiry	Yes	No	No	No	None
§33	Request for information	Point of information	Yes	No	No	No	None

### Part 3, Motions That Bring a Question Again Before the Assembly.

No order of precedence. Introduce only when nothing else is pending.

§	PURPOSE:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT? 2ND?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§34	Take matter from table	I move to take from the table ...	No	No	No	Majority
§35	Cancel previous action	I move to rescind ...	No	Yes	Yes	2/3 or Majority with notice
§37	Reconsider motion	I move to reconsider ...	No	Varies	No	Majority



- ✓ **JOB TRAINING**
- ✓ **AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS**
- ✓ **PUBLIC SAFETY**
- ✓ **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**
- ✓ **PUBLIC HEALTH**
- ✓ **YOUTH SERVICES**

***Are these services important to you?  
Do they impact you and your family?***

Every year, the City of Worcester receives Federal funding to help our residents gain access to much-needed services such as these. These dollars are limited and we want to make sure that every cent is allocated to address the most pressing needs of those in our community.

***We want you to tell us about services that are most important to you at one of the following public information sessions:***

**Thursday, September 20**

6:30 p.m.

Worcester Senior Center  
128 Providence Street

**Monday, October 1**

6:30 p.m.

Straight Up Café  
795 Main Street

**Thursday, September 27**

6:30 p.m.

Great Brook Valley  
Community Recreation Center  
180 Constitution Avenue

**Monday, October 15**

6:30 p.m.

All Saints Church  
10 Irving Street

***ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
ALL MEETING ROOMS ARE ADA ACCESSIBLE***

***NEED MORE INFORMATION? CALL 508-799-1400, EXTENSION 226.***

***HOSTED BY THE CITY OF WORCESTER'S EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT AND THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE***



- ✓ **PREPARACIÓN PARA EMPLEO**
- ✓ **PROGRAMAS DESPUES DE LA ESCUELA**
- ✓ **SEGURIDAD PÚBLICA**
- ✓ **VIVIENDA ASEQUIBLE**
- ✓ **SALUD PÚBLICA**
- ✓ **SERVICIOS PARA JOVENES**

***¿Estos servicios son importante para usted?  
¿Son de impacto para usted y su familia?***

Cada año, la Ciudad de Worcester recibe fondos federales para ayudar a los residentes acceder a servicios muy necesarios como éstos. Estos dólares son limitados y queremos asegurarnos de que cada centavo atienda las necesidades mas apremiantes de las personas en nuestra comunidad.

***Queremos que nos informen acerca de los servicios que son más importantes para usted en una de las sesiones de información pública:***

**Jueves, 20 de Septiembre**

6:30 p.m.  
Worcester Senior Center  
128 Providence Street

**Lunes, 1 de Octubre**

6:30 p.m.  
Straight Up Café  
795 Main Street

**Jueves, 27 de Septiembre**

6:30 p.m.  
Great Brook Valley  
Community Recreation Center  
180 Constitution Avenue

**Lunes, 15 de Octubre**

6:30 p.m.  
All Saints Church  
10 Irving Street

***TODAS LAS REUNIONES SON ABIERTAS AL PÚBLICO  
TODAS LAS SALAS DE REUNIONES SON ACCESIBLE PARA ADA***

***¿NECESITAS MAS INFORMACIÓN?  
LLAME a 508-799-1400, EXTENSIÓN 226.***

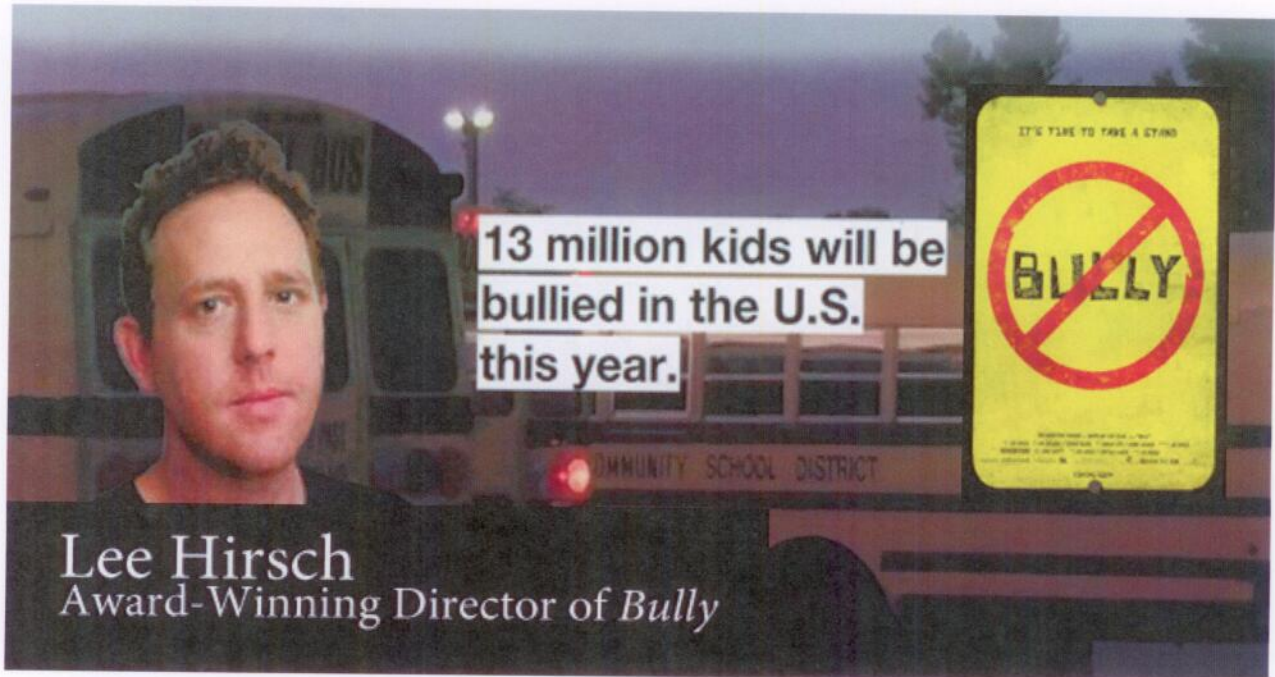
***ORGANIZADO POR LA OFICINA EJECUTIVA DE DESARROLLO ECONÓMICO DE LA CIUDAD DE WORCESTER Y EL COMITÉ DE DESARROLLO DE LA COMUNIDAD***

# HAROLD N. COTTON COMMUNITY LECTURE

Sunday, October 14, 2012

4:00 pm

Tuckerman Hall  
Worcester, MA



Lee Hirsch is building a movement. Hirsch, the director of the moving and troubling documentary *Bully*, is on a mission to end bullying.

At the podium, Hirsch tackles the issue of bullying and how it affects students, their families, the schools and society at large. He takes audiences behind the scenes of filming in Georgia, Mississippi and Oklahoma; and his unlimited access in two schools in Sioux City, Iowa. He discusses his ideas behind *Bully*, what the process was like filming moments of bullying as they were happening and what he hopes the film will achieve — to show bullying as something that is absolutely undeniable or irrefutable. Hirsch will also engage audiences in "The Bully Project," a social action campaign to end bullying that started as a result of the film. "The Bully Project" highlights solutions that both address immediate needs and lead to systemic change.

Audiences will be moved, disturbed and infuriated as they watch powerful and often gritty clips from the film, but motivated to join Hirsch in his crusade to stop the violence.

## SPONSORED BY:

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS: *(In formation)*



**Chairperson**  
Rachel Shannon Brown

**Vice-Chair**  
Deborah Malone

**Secretary**  
Lynne Towler



**City of Worcester  
Commission on Disability**

**Members:**  
Herbert Cremer  
Charles Hiamah  
Pauline Piso  
Stephen Stolberg

**Associate Members:**  
Javier Pena

**MEETING AGENDA**

Wednesday, September 12, 2012  
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM  
Worcester Public Library, Banx Room

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions 4:30-4:35
2. Guest Speaker: Steve Meredith, Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services 4:35-5:05
3. Acceptance of July Minutes 5:05-5:15
4. Training/Demonstration on Use of Procedural Motions 5:15-6:00



CITY OF WORCESTER COMMISSION ON DISABILITY  
c/o JAYNA TURCHEK, ESQ., DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS & DISABILITIES, CITY HALL  
455 MAIN ST., WORCESTER, MA 01608  
TELEPHONE (508) 799-1152 | FAX (508) 799-1208  
EMAIL: disabilities@worcesterma.gov



- 5. Communications and Reports:** 6:00-6:20
- a. Chairperson
    - i. Future Meeting Space and Dates
  - b. Director of Human Rights and Disabilities
    - i. Recommendations to DPW for Sidewalk Improvements
- 6. Old Business and Updates** 6:20-6:25
- a. October "Bully" Event
- 7. Member Update and New Business** 6:25-6:30
- 8. Announcements and Adjournment** 6:30
- 9. Items for Future Discussion:**
- a. Service/Companion Animal Ordinance
  - b. AAB Updates
  - c. Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Management
  - d. Library Accessibility
  - e. Friends of the Commission
  - f. Transportation and TPAG
  - g. Transition Plan Update
  - h. Bullying Project
  - i. Executive and Advisory Commissions