

**Atlantic County**  
**Disability Advisory Board**  
**Minutes: May 14, 2019**

**Attendance:** Joe Brown, Joanne Gahr, CheeKa Wu, Trinna Rodgers, Ryan Penn, Linda Klersey, Doortje Schipper

**Excused:** John LaSala, Mark Petrella, Bob Ross, Carol Ditmire

**Absent:** Maureen Kern

**Ex-Officio:** Cristine Chickadel

**Public:** Paul Farber

**I. Call to Order:** at 12:33pm by Chairman Brown.

**II. Approval of Minutes:** The March minutes were approved without revision.

**III.**

**Committee Reports:**

***A. Legislation:***

1. Trinna reported on 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit Legislature. Case out of Jersey City re resident seeking a car port and curb cut for her access. City wouldn't allow, now case is going to Supreme Court. She will keep us posted on outcome.
2. Trinna reported on another case in 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit regarding web access involving entitles such as Burlington Coat Factory and Forever 21. Websites not compatible with certain software that translates images into text, specifically for those visually impaired. Case Pending.
3. Cristine reported on a DOJ Case settled May 2, 2019 involving Greyhound Bus Lines. Payments totaling over \$3.25 million to individuals, for violations of the ADA by failing to provide full and equal transportation services.

***B. Access:***

1. Linda reported her positive experience on a NJ Transit Bus from Atlantic City to Somers Point. The belt tie downs were faster than Access Link and the kindness and helpfulness she experienced were refreshing.

2. Beach Access checks for designated beach reports were discussed candidly between members.

#### **IV. Old Business:**

1. Joe reported Polling location Accessibility checks at voting poll sites have been reported, and went well.
2. Beach Access Initiative. Cristine passed around draft of letter to forward to municipalities regarding the checks. JoAnn suggested to copy to City Clerks as well.

#### **V. New Business:**

1. Donald Sykes Awards. Suggestions requested on how to seek nominees.
2. Meeting place to move permanently to Galloway Library. Members like this venue best. Cristine will follow up.

#### **VI. Good and Welfare:**

- Save the Date: Ability Fair!! Stockton July 24<sup>th</sup> 10am.  
Trenton Ave. beach in Cape May is an excellent accessible beach.

#### **VII. Public Comment:**

Paul Farber of Medical Accessibility presented information on the UpScale. He represents the product as an ADA Consultant, trained attorney and Title III Accessibility Specialist. The need was recognized for access in medical facilities. Many facilities had poor access despite ADA mandates. Product accommodates all persons. <https://medicalaccessibility.com/>

**VII. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 1:16pm.

Next meeting date June 11<sup>th</sup> 2019, Galloway Library meeting room.