

Disabled In Action of Metro New York Board agenda and meeting
Sunday, February 23, 2020, 12 noon.
Selis Manor auditorium, 135 W. 23rd St., NYC, NY 10011
Minutes from Kathleen Collins and Phillip Bennett

Board Members in attendance:

President Jean Ryan, First Vice President Carr Massi, Second Vice President Michael Acevedo, Treasurer Phil Beder, Recording Secretary Philip Bennett, Corresponding Secretary Kathleen Collins, Robert Acevedo, Leda Apikoglu, Luda Demikhovskaya, Joe Floccari, Robert Hardy, Michael Ring, Patricia Walls.

Welcome from Jean -What we discuss here stays here. Let's try hard to work together and be respectful to each other, and not interrupt and talk over people.

First, copies of the November 2019 and January 2020 DIA meeting minutes were distributed by DIA President Jean Ryan (Jean) to the members of the DIA Board present. The Board members reviewed the minutes. Board member Carr Massi (Carr) moved for the Board to accept the November 2019 DIA meeting minutes and Board member Luda Demikhovskaya (Luda) second the motion. The Board members present voted unanimously to accept the November 2019 DIA meeting minutes. Board member Kathleen Collins (Kathleen) moved for the Board to accept the January 2020 DIA meeting minutes and Board member Joe Floccari (Joe) seconded the motion. The Board members present voted unanimously to accept the January 2020 DIA meeting minutes.

DIA Treasurer Phil Beder (Phil) gave the Board copies of the financial report and informed the Board that the backup documents were available at the meeting for the Board members' inspection. Phil stated that the total deposits were \$376.36, which he stated was a small amount, and the total withdrawals were \$291.44, which \$150 was to Verizon for DIA's telephone line and the remaining \$141.44 was to Staples for membership cards, notice cards, card stock and labels. Cathy moves DIA reimburse DIA's Treasurer Phil Beder for the \$141.44 he paid to Staples for membership cards, notice cards, card stock and labels was made, seconded and unanimously approved by the Board.

Phil suggests that DIA do a mailing to all members of DIA about membership dues and Jean agreed with this recommendation. Phil informed the Board that he filed DIA's 990, this is the 1040 IRS Form for non-profits with income less than \$50,000. Phil recommended that Board members assist him so we can all become familiar with how DIA's finances work.

Reminder: do not leave board papers on the table when the meeting is over.

Also, there was a discussion about the cost of the DIA telephone line and possible alternatives, such as a cell phone or, as suggested by Michael Ring (Michael R), a Google phone line which directs calls. saving money for what we have now have with Verizon and managed by Bob Schoinfeld (Bob) who's not on the board. Incoming calls are free on a Google line, but outgoing calls cost money. Further, we would probably have to get a different telephone number and it seems that you cannot have an answering message machine on a Google phone line (these beliefs need to be verified with Google). Finally, Jean explained that Bob, who answers DIA's telephone line has been doing it for many years, is

very knowledgeable and has done an excellent job. The Board agreed to keep the telephone line as is for now while other alternatives are investigated further.

Set up board training date. We will try again. Most board members are available Sunday March 8th. Saturday March 7 is a lesser maybe.

Finance Committee meeting March 22 and April 26, 11:15am at Selis. It will be 45 minutes before the board training or 45 minutes before the DIA March meeting. Location to be announced.

Discuss.

Committees - I'm appointing Kathy, Phil, Philip and Jean to the bylaws committee. They must be amended, we will meet by phone.

We will ask building management for a meeting on July 19th.

July 12 parade next Sunday.

There will be a big ADA celebration on the 26th of July. No details are available yet.

Phil: man from Amalgamated bank to help us financially get stuff including sound equipment
Carr suggests we invite Victor Calise to next meeting to talk about ADA celebrations and spread information to the community about the census.

Old business? New business?

Phil: motion to adjourn 12:56pm

If you would like this in a Word, Google Doc, or Pages document, I will do that and email it to you.

Kathy Collins

DIA General Membership meeting

February 23rd 2020, 1:35pm--4pm.

Selis Manor, 135 W. 23rd St., NYC NY

Over 30 people attending.

Welcome to DIA! - Please turn off or silence your cell phones, refrain from wearing perfumes and strong fragrances, sign the attendance sheet when you come in and get an agenda at the table. Please give people who are talking your attention. If you must speak to your neighbor, do it outside in the hall.

Thank you to Carr Massi for providing the refreshments and thank you to Tom Powers for sitting at the attendance table.

Many people do volunteer jobs for DIA. It's easier when we all pitch in. If you can, please help us set up the room after the meeting.

1:30 — 1:50 Introductions — Welcome and please be brief when you introduce yourself.

Between 1:50 and 2:45 or 3:00 -- Activism Updates -

1. Kathy Collins - Court cases summary - Court dates are on the back of this agenda.
2. Phil Beder - Treasurer news and committee reports.
3. Michael Ring -- Report on trip to Albany legislature.
4. Jean Ryan - Next 2 meetings and Central Park access, MTA board, accessible taxis and court inaccessibility in all 5 boroughs (TheCity.nyc).
5. If time - Anyone else have something to announce or discuss? Concerns?
6. 3:00 — The famous optional 50/50 (one dollar per ticket) and a short break for networking, talking.
7. 3:10 — 4:00 Taxi and Limousine (TLC) presentation. 4:00 - Meeting ends. Please help clean up & put chairs & tables back. See you on March 22nd!

UPCOMING DATES---

MTA board meeting, Monday, February 24 at 10:00 a.m. and February 26 at 9:30 a.m., 2 Broadway, 20th Floor. Anyone can testify for 2 minutes by signing up 15 minutes before. If you have gripes, please do this. It helps to write your testimony down. You can also watch the hearing by going to MTA.info.

Monday's February 24th meeting focuses on buses, subways and Access-A-Ride..

Wednesday's meeting on February 26th can be on any service the MTA runs.

Cathy has court case summaries dealing with ADA.

March 11th, 2020, Wednesday, Appeal by MTA on all our subways cases. 2:00-3:30p.m., appellate court, 27 Madison Ave., 2nd Fl. Accessible entrance through 41 Madison Ave. between 25th and 26th Streets. Pack the court! It's a beautiful room, too. Go early because it's so circuitous to get to the 2nd floor.

March 19, 2020 at 60 Centre St -- 9:00 a.m. Rally across the street, 10:00 a.m. Court hearing in Judge Hagler's court--Room 335. This case is to make every subway station accessible and DIA is a plaintiff. Pack the court! We make a difference!

March 20, 2020 -- 10:00 a.m.. 40 Centre St. Rm. 443. Police case hearing on police station accessibility. NYPD is appealing. It's very important to be here and show the judge and the City we want access. Judge Valerie Caproni.

Ask Kathy for more information.

Marla de Fex talks about the gap between train and platform then about cab and bus accessibility problems. Dial 511 or visit MTA website to make MTA complaint.

Michael Ring talks about lobbying in Albany February 10th.

Robert A talks about medicaid redesign team meeting, next meeting March 2nd, Monday.

Next DIA Meetings — March 22, 2020 and April 26, 2020.

Mayor de Blasio nominates Victor Calise and a woman to serve on BTA Board.

Jean talks about disability news, inaccessibility of Queens courts. thecity.nyc free newspaper has an article about it.

We talk about access in Central Park. Michael Ring and Carr Massi report problems in the Boathouse, blocking accessible pathways with toy animals.

Jean mention Michael Astor cable show Disability ASK JEAN FOR TITLE

We skip 50/50 raffle.

Four people from TLC talk about services and information for People with Disabilities. Make complaints through 311. Three instances of discriminating against passenger results in revocation of license.

In case of bad weather, look on the DIA website www.disabledinaction.org or call the DIA answering machine after sundown at 718-261-3737. If the meeting is cancelled, it will be on the website or answering machine. If the meeting will be held, nothing new will be on the website or phone.

Minutes submitted by Philip Bennett – Recording Secretary