

**Frederick County Commission on
Disabilities (COD) Minutes
Monday, May 9, 2022
Meeting**

- I. The meeting was held at Winchester Hall, 12 E. Church Street in Frederick, Maryland. It was called to order by Vice Chair David Drezner, who recognized the existence of a quorum and called for approval of the meeting agenda. Motions were made and a unanimous vote in favor resulted.

- II. Attendance
The following members were present: David Drezner, Lisa Clark, Mark Swift, Evan Evans, Theresa Posthuma, and Jackie Kanekuni. County staff member Miles Ward was present. Guests attending were applicants Robert Gunter, Michelle Shay, and Jason Schriml. Crystal Gastley and Stephanie Novitski, ASL interpreters, were also present, as was Dr. Kate Kramer-Jefferson, the guest speaker for this meeting.

- III. There was no public comment.
- IV. The guest speaker was Dr. Kate Kramer-Jefferson, who is the Director of Disability Access Services at Frederick Community College. The college has many programs that strive to reduce the impact of a disability on a student's opportunity to learn and participate in campus life. These include academic advising, accommodation plans, assistive technology, case management and interpreting services.
- V. Business
- a) Upon motion, the minutes of the April 2022 COD meeting were approved.
- b) Upon motion, the slate of officers presented at the April meeting was unanimously approved by vote. The following officers were elected to serve for one year, from July 1, 2022 until June 30, 2023:
- Chair – Dave Drezner
Vice Chair – Lisa Clark
Secretary – Mark Swift
Treasurer – Evan Evans
- c) The three applicants who were present were

invited to make a brief statement of introduction and describe their backgrounds and interest in serving on the COD.

VI. Members that chose to do so gave closing remarks.

Jackie Kanekuni asked if she should encourage people to come to COD meetings and describe their complaints about discrimination by local nursing homes against people who are deaf. She is aware that some people believe that some nursing homes try to avoid taking people who are deaf, and do not provide enough qualified ASL interpreters. An enthusiastic general discussion took place of the resources and remedies that are available to properly deal with these complaints against nursing homes. There was also discussion about which government agency has jurisdiction to investigate complaints like these. A consensus was reached that other agencies and organizations would be the place to refer people who want to file such complaints.

VII. The meeting was adjourned.