

**ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026**

7:00 P.M., Lee Center  
1108 Jefferson Street, Gold Room 1

**Members Present**

Megan Prince  
Alex Sprague  
Sarah Radt  
Shannon Loelius  
Donna Spencer  
Brendan Conn  
Caitlin Scuderi  
Chasen Thoennes

**City Staff Present**

Delante Wade

**Members Excused**

Rachel Dixon  
Christine Mullen

**Members Absent**

Merle Cuthrell  
Alex Radt  
Robbi Woodson  
Howard Weiss

**Call to Order by Chair Prince**

Chair Prince called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

**Introduction of ACPD Commissioners**

One new ACPD Commissioner was introduced.

**Approval of Agenda**

Upon a motion by Chair Prince, seconded by Vice Chair Sprague, the Agenda was approved. All Commissioners present voted aye.

### **Approval of Minutes of the January Meeting**

Upon a motion by Chair Prince, seconded by Vice Chair Sprague, the January meeting minutes were approved. All Commissioners present voted aye.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Chair's Report:** House Bill 1394 to decriminalize homelessness was tabled until 2027. Two years ago, there was an Executive Order criminalizing homelessness, and House Bill 1394 was a way of fighting against the Executive Order. House Bill 1394 is important to the ACPD because there are a large number of individuals in the city who are homeless. The ACPD has decided to draft and send a letter to the City Council to address this issue. Furthermore, the ACPD will follow up on House Bill 1394 during the next legislative session.

**Guest Speaker:** No guest speaker.

### **Committee Reports**

**Executive Committee:** As mentioned in the Chair's Report, the first thing the committee discussed was the decriminalization of the homelessness bill and what the ACPD could do to help.

Secondly, for the sake of future meeting agenda's, going forward Rachel Dixon will give reports for the Housing Committee and the Housing Affordability Advisory Committee. Sarah Radt will give reports for the Board of Architectural Review Committee. The only committee that is open is the Legislative Committee, which is a seasonal committee.

Alexandria Democrats have scheduled a Firehouse Primary for the City Council on February 21, 2026. April 21, 2026, will be the election for the open City Council seat that Kirk McPike is resigning from.

In response to the recent snowstorm and the lack of snow removal, the ACPD would like to address City Council and come up with ideas that will address mobility issues during major snowstorms for city residents and visitors including individuals with disabilities. Vice Chair Sprague stated that to date, they is still navigating around huge piles of snow and has fallen on numerous occasions. Commissioner Radt suggested that the city ordinance regarding individuals shoveling snow from the sidewalks should mention that a clear path of at least 36 inches should be required per the ADA standards. Commissioner Radt also suggested that snowplow operators be more mindful and not push huge piles of snow right in front of curb cuts. Additionally, having some type of plan in place to clear bus stop of snow in neighborhoods where there is a large disabled and senior aged population. A letter to the Mayor and City Council will be drafted and presented at the next meeting.

**Legislative Committee:** No report.

**Housing Committee:** No report.

**Accessibility-Friendly Businesses Committee:** No report.

**Board of Architectural Review Committee:** Commissioner Radt stated that the BAR has not recently had any meetings and that at least one meeting was canceled due to the recent snowstorm. Commissioner Radt stated that she did a side-by-side comparison of the BAR accessibility portion of its review and compared their draft with the edits that the ACPD made and will send around if members would like to review the two documents simultaneously.

**Human Rights Committee:** The Human Rights Committee did not have a guest speaker last month.

The Chief of Police put out a new human rights and civil rights policy. The Human Rights Commission nor the Alexandria Office of Human Rights were made aware of the new policies prior to its release. The Human Rights Commission will be meeting with the Chief of Police next week at the Black History Museum in Alexandria.

The Alexandria City High School newspaper wrote an article regarding a very dangerous intersection that separates the high school campus. Students have the option to bus between the campus, but many students choose to walk and for many it appears to be a potentially unsafe situation. As a result of the news article the City School Board attempted to censor the newspaper and take control of making the final decision on what can and can't be posted. The school newspaper went to the public to express their frustration with the City School Board and ultimately a decision on where governance sits in terms of what students have, what power students have and what power the school board has. The Human Right Commission supported the school newspaper.

Last week there was a point and time count. A point and time count is when volunteers walk around Alexandria and point and count every unhoused person, they see to get a sense for how many unhoused individuals are in the city.

**Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee:** No report.

**Alexandria Commission on Aging:** No report.

**Alexandria Chamber of Commerce:** No report.

### **Action Item**

**Commissioner Radt:** Commissioner Radt reviewed the letter that she drafted to DASH requesting an update on accessibility issues affecting riders with disabilities. The letter addressed the following issues: the status and results of the Quantum securement system pilot, as well as any plans for future purchases or expansion of this system on DASH buses; planned upgrades to bus stop amenities

and accessibility, including the addition of benches and bus shelters at more bus stops; and snow and ice clearance protocols around bus stops to ensure access for riders with disabilities. Upon a motion to approve the letter with edits, by Vice Chair Sprague, seconded by Commissioner Radt, the letter was approved. All Commissioners present voted aye.

Additionally, Commissioner Radt requested that DOT Paratransit Program Manager, Owen Albrecht come to an ACPD meeting and provide an update on DOT's Paratransit program.

### **Member Reports**

**Vice Chair Sprague:** Delegate Bennett Parker was just elected to the State Senate. Attended the watch party last night and had a seizure in public. Informed the ACPD that the "Nothing About Us Without Us Act" would not be coming back. Vice Chair Sprague reached out to Delegate Bennett Parker and asked if she could contact Governor Spanberger and call for a special session to have the "Nothing About Us Without Us Act" reintroduced.

**Chair Prince:** No report.

**Commissioner Radt:** No report.

**Commissioner Thoennes:** No report.

**Commissioner Scuderi:** No report.

**Commissioner Conn:** No report.

**Commissioner Spencer:** No report.

**Commissioner Loelius:** No report.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Prince motioned to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Radt. All Commissioners present voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2026, and it will be held at 7:00 p.m., Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson Street, Gold Room 1.