Disability and Resource Task Force Meeting Minutes
Palatine Township Hall
721 S. Quentin Road
Palatine IL 60067
October 19, 2026 at 6:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER
Chairperson Sahinoglu called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL
Samantha Shapiro, General Assistance Director, called the roll. Members present were Gerald Chapman, Linda Hall, Robert McKanna, Hemal Modi, Julie Nowak, Adrienne Provost, Robin Raef, Kevin Sullivan, Chairperson Natalie Sahinoglu.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member McKanna.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

PRESENTATION
A. Introduction of Members

Chairperson Sahinoglu noted that Member Herzau has decided to step back from the Task Force. Supervisor Kalkounos has appointed Kevin Sullivan as the new member.

Chairperson Sahinoglu asked members to introduce themselves and speak about their areas of expertise and interest in disabilities and accessibility. Members introduced themselves and summarized their experience. Member Sullivan was welcomed as the new member.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Motion by Member McKanna, seconded by Member Provost, to approve the September 21, 2026 meeting minutes as presented.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT
Chairperson Sahinoglu noted that October 10, 2026 was Disability Night Out and October is Disability Awareness Month.

OLD BUSINESS
A. Community Mental Health Board Needs Assessment
Director Shapiro summarized the Community Mental Health Board Needs Assessment, identifying barriers to mental health care, service capacity limitations, and unmet disability service needs.

Members discussed establishing measurable Task Force outcomes and prioritizing housing, employment, transportation, healthcare, education, financial assistance, and access to services. Members emphasized the difficulties residents and families face navigating applications and locating appropriate resources. Suggestions

included a centralized resource directory, stronger agency coordination, and practical assistance connecting residents with services.

B. Access to Services

Members identified focus areas for upcoming meetings (not in this specific order):

- Housing and independent living
- Healthcare and wellness
- Transportation and mobility
- Education and employment
- Access to services and information
- Financial assistance, benefits, and future planning
- Family support, social connection, and community participation

Members identified transportation as a significant barrier to employment and community participation. Member Sullivan described restrictions affecting Township paratransit and TRIP services and offered to present an analysis at a future meeting.

Members stressed the need for assistance in navigating services and completing applications. The Task Force discussed the developing Palatine Township Online Resource Hub and will contribute resources. Chairperson Sahinoglu requested that members submit resources and feedback to Admin@palatinetownship-il.gov.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Rules of Decorum Policy

Members were presented with Palatine Township Rules of Decorum Policy in the board packet. This applies to Task Force members and the public. Members are to review the policy's expectations for respectful and orderly participation.

B. 2027 Meeting Schedule

The Task Force reviewed the proposed 2027 schedule.

MOTION by Member Sullivan, seconded by Member Nowak to approve the 2027 Disability and Resource Task Force Meeting Schedule as presented.

OTHER BUSINESS

Before adjournment, Chairperson Sahinoglu allowed a member of the public approximately three minutes to comment. Vincent Bertoccini who is not a resident of Palatine Township discussed SSI and SSDI, income limits, and the risk that employment may affect disability benefits.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn by Member Hall, seconded by Member Chapman. Adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Natalie Sahinoglu

Chairperson