Sudbury Commission on Disability

Minutes of meeting Monday, February 26, 2007; 5:30 PM, Sudbury Senior Center

Present: Chair, David Mortimer, Kristin Kiesel, Stephen Machnik, Susan Stocker

Absent: Cori Carvelli, Tess Zinnes

Next meeting	Monday, February 5, 2007, 5:30 PM, Flynn Building		
Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
Welcome Cori Carvelli	Cori has officially been appointed to the Commission.		
Minutes		The minutes of the January 3, 2007 meeting were approved as corrected.	
Old Business			1
Group Home Update	There has been no activity, but the Selectmen's agenda for 02/27/07 includes interviews for membership for the newly-established Sudbury Housing Trust. The Trust will be able to allocate funds for housing purposes in a more timely way than waiting for Town Meeting action. For example, Community Preservation Act funds can be transferred to the Trust and then expended. It could also access State funding for projects like the Rhome project, since that meets several of the State criteria for funding.		
Transportation Update	The Friends of Sudbury Seniors has agreed to pay for the addition of seat back grab bars and a skirt-mounted dual battery box for the new van. Other options such as the interior	The Town manager, by way of the Town Planning, has asked for some research into the experience of other communities joining RTAs.	The Transportation Committee will meet Tuesday, February 27 at 10 in the Senior Center.

	colors have been selected.		
Short and Long-term Goal Review	The Commission continued work on the Mission Statement by further discussion of short-term and longer term goals. The group agreed to add several short- term goals for 2007: Develop publicity to create a continuing community awareness of the Commission and of the needs of people with disabilities; Review and respond to the ADA Compliance Plan for Sudbury; Support and encourage a disabilities awareness project among L/S high school students (Tess' project).	Formerly accepted short term goals: Continued work on the parking lot striping project, Get formally included in the process for reviewing building plans in Sudbury, Produce one or two public education forums during 2007. Long term goals Working to address walkway (sidewalk) non-compliance issues, Working with the Council on Aging to improve public transportation, Developing a strong voice to advocate for "Real Choices", Advocacy for supportive services to help people stay at home rather than to move to a nursing home The Commission voted to accept the goals and the full Mission Statement/Values/Goals document.	Kris will assemble the various parts of the mission into one document. Steve will contact the Framingham Commission to get the original, initiating documents for the ADA standard to help The Assistant Town Manager locate Sudbury's plan.
Sidewalks and Accessibility Standards	No update	A copy of the standards is available though the State House book store, and are given as part of the Community Access Monitor training packet.	Dave will try to reach Mark Dempsey to get the accessibility standards.
Tess' project	Tess' plane was delayed by weather. She submitted several pages of her	It is not clear that the L/S principal and the Town Manager are fully	Commission members will review the plans and e-mail Tess their

	plan for the disability awareness day. Tess hopes to use Senior Center space to conduct training for students who will simulate having disabilities. She hopes to have the event on April 15, 2007.	updated on this project. This needs to happen before publicity on the project is released, especially since Sudbury has been in the news recently due to the tragic stabbing of a student. The Senior Center may be available, but schedules are tight and need to be coordinated. The Commission recommends that Tess come up with a name for her project.	 comments. At the next meeting, Tess will discuss her response to the comments. Tess will be asked to run her release form by the school officials to be sure it meets their criteria. Tess will be asked to be sure that the L/S principal is fully aware of the project. Kris will update the Town Manager. Dave will call the pharmacist at the Sudbury Pharmacy to see if materials to help simulate blindness can be donated. Susan will write up a press release.
Bylaws	The group discussed Bylaws for itself, modeled on sample Bylaws provided by Dave.	Term limits were discussed, but the group does not feel that term limits are a good strategy for the Commission, since recruitment may be a problem and the pool of appropriate candidates may be limited.	Kris will write up the results of the group discussion for review and vote at the next meeting.
Funds/Ticketing	Susan has not had a change to ask the Police Chief about ticketing for parking in handicap spaces.		Kris will contact Police Chief Peter Fadgen to let him know Susan will be seeking some information about this.
Architectural Barrier Code	Steve has not been able to contact Bruce Bruneau.		
Community Access Monitor	Steve gave the group a list of dates for	Steve plans to take the training	

Training	Community Access Monitor Training.	himself, for a second time.	
Publicity	Susan gave the group a publicity plan, with suggested topics for monthly press releases.	To prevent the process of press release development and approval from becoming too cumbersome, Susan will develop press releases according to her plan, and review them with Dave and then send them out.	The group will suggest topics fro September through December to Susan.
New Business			
Speakerphone	The Town Counsel has agreed that Commission members who cannot attend a meeting due to a disability may attend by speakerphone so long as they do not vote.	The Commission can purchase a Cisco IP Conference Station speaker phone compatible with the new phone system at the Fairbank building for \$918.01. The funds will come from the Commission account with the town. The membership voted to expend the funds.	
Membership Application: Sally Sack	Sally Sack has applied for Commission membership.		Dave will contact Sally and arrange to meet with her.
Telephone Message Monitoring	The Commission now has a telephone number to receive messages. The callers to 978-639-3265 will hear an outgoing message about the Commission, and will then be able to leave a message. The messages must be monitored daily.	When a message is received, the caller needs to be contacted and offered assistance or a response to their query. Assistance will be offered only if the caller's issue relates to their own or a family member's disability.	Dave will monitor the messages daily until the next meeting.
Legislative reception	A lobbying reception will be held at the State House.		
United Spinal.org	This group is launching a campaign called "Parking here for just a minute is 60 seconds too long", to help		

	decrease inappropriate parking in spaces reserved for people with disabilities.		
Next meeting	Monday, March 26, 2007, 5:30 PM, in the Sudbury Senior Center, unless otherwise notified.		

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