

Sudbury Commission on Disability

Minutes of meeting Wednesday, January 3, 2007; 5:30 PM, Sudbury Senior Center

Present: Chair, David Mortimer, Kristin Kiesel, Stephen Machnik; guests Cori Carvelli and Susan Stockler

Absent: Tess Zinnes

Next meeting	Monday, February 5, 2007, 5:30 PM, Flynn Building		
Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
Welcome Cori Carvelli	The Commission welcomed Cori Carvelli, a Sudbury resident who has applied to be appointed to the Commission. Cori has experience with the issues of people who use wheelchairs. Her e-mail is: soxfan3312@aol.com	The Commission voted unanimously to recommend Cori's appointment to the Board of Selectmen.	Kris will send Cori's application and a cover letter citing the Commission's recommendation to the selectmen.
Minutes		The minutes of the November 29, 06 meeting were approved as corrected.	
Old Business			
Municipal Parking Lot Striping Update and Voting Access	Dave reported that two of the three recreational fields have multiple parking and access problems. The fields have dirt lots, no striped marking spaces, signs inappropriately placed and confusing, and poor or nonexistent access to the fields themselves and to seating. The Ti Sales field is especially bad.	Much work needs to be done, but this issue probably should wait until better weather. We need to see if Park and Rec can put money in their budget for paving the parking areas and making other changes. The issue of voting access is mostly an interior building issue and is still pending.	Kris will speak with Park and Rec Director Dennis Mannone to alert him to the issues.
Housing for people with disabilities	There is no update.		
Transportation Committee Report	The new van will be fitted with a wheelchair lift by the Braun Corporation in Indiana. The grant for	The Commission wants to publicize its activities, and would like to begin with the transportation Senior Access	Kris will e-mail Susan with details of the taxi program.

	a consultant to design a two-town transportation system was not funded by the Crossroads Foundation.	program. Susan is working on this, but one question is who to say an interested reader should call for more info on the Commission's activities.	Kris will ask Mark Thompson to create a telephone mailbox for the Commission on the Town's new phone system.
Tess' project	No update		Dave will talk with Tess separately.
Goals	<p>The Commission continued work on the Mission Statement by discussing a list of short-term and longer term goals.</p> <p>Short term goals (for 2007) might include continued work on the parking lot striping project, getting formally included in the process for reviewing building plans in Sudbury, getting the ADA Compliance Plan for Sudbury and reviewing it, and producing one or two public education forums during 2007.</p> <p>Long term goals include working to address walkway (sidewalk) non-compliance issues, working with the Council on Aging to improve public transportation, and developing a strong voice to advocate for "Real Choices", supportive service to help people stay at home rather than to move to a nursing home</p>	<p>The group made one change to the Values Statement drafted at last month's meeting, so that it now reads:</p> <p>In our actions, we are guided by these values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A commitment to dealing with each person with compassion, and respect for and appreciation of differences; • An openness toward all cultures (such as the culture of those who sign); • An expectation that each individual will take responsibility for his or her own actions, including doing as much as possible for him or herself; and • A preference for the least restrictive environment. <p>We view people with disabilities as our peers, and work with them and the community to resolve problems in support of self-determination and independence in living and decision</p>	<p>The group will vote to adopt the Mission Statement, Values, and goals once discussion is finalized.</p> <p>Kris will e-mail Library Director Bill Talentino to see if the library has a copy of the ADA plan.</p> <p>Members are asked to think of topics for education forums, and potential speakers.</p>

		making.	
New Business			
Electric doors	Cori mentioned that many merchants do not have electric doors, which makes access difficult for people using wheelchairs.	Dave said that the state has specified a specific number of pounds of weight it takes to open the door. If the door can be opened with a pull of less than that weight, there is no requirement for an electric door. The pull can be measured with a fish weight scale.	
Architectural Barrier Code	There have been changes to the code in 2006, and it would be helpful to know what those are.	Dave said that Bruce Bruneau from the Mass Office on Disability may be able to supply the pages of the code that have changed. The number is 1-800-322-2020	Steve will call Bruce.
Funds	The Commission has about \$10,000 in funds that have accrued due to fines collected for unauthorized parking in designated spaces for people with disabilities.	It would be good to find out how many violations there are and where the violations are occurring. There is also a need to get some merchants to affix the appropriate signs permanently.	Kris and Susan can ask the police chief to see if this information is being collected or is available.
Community Access Monitor Training	The state periodically offers a two-day training to become a Community Access Monitor. Once someone is certified as a monitor, he or she can look into accessibility issues.	Bruce Bruneau is a good person to contact to find out when the next training will be held.	
Next meeting	Wednesday, January 3, 2007, 5:30 PM, in the Flynn Building		