

Sudbury Commission on Disability

Minutes of meeting, Monday, February 25, 2008; 5:30 PM, Sudbury Senior Center

Present: Chair David Mortimer, Ben Halsband, Kris Kiesel, Stephen Machnik, Anita Simon, Susan Stocker, Carol Stoner

Absent with permission: Lotte Diomedede, Ronald McClanahan,

Next meeting	Monday, March 31, 2008, 5:30 PM, Sudbury Senior Center, 40 Fairbank Road
---------------------	--

Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
Minutes	Minutes of the Monday, January 28, 2008 meeting were approved as corrected.		
Old Business			
Membership			
Interview Format	Susan and Kris submitted potential interview questions, and Dave gave the group a list of questions with categories that he got from the Internet. Should the applicant be interviewed by a separate committee that reports to the full commission, or by the Commission as a whole? If with the Commission as a whole, how can we avoid the awkward time when the Commission is discussing the candidate while the person waits in the hall?	What length of interview is appropriate? The Commission voted unanimously to invite new candidates to a Commission meeting. Their interview will be the last item on the agenda, and following the interview the candidate can leave. The Commission will discuss the applicant and vote on whether to accept the person as a provisional member. If accepted the meeting the applicant had just attended will count toward the three provisional meetings before making a recommendation to the Selectmen.	Commission members are asked to look over the potential categories of questions so we can finalize the list of questions at next meeting.
Absences	Commission policy is to request a resignation from any member who has three unexcused absences in a year. It	The Commission voted unanimously to have the secretary record absences in the meeting minutes as excused or simply absent. To be excused,	

Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
	has been difficult to track excused vs. unexcused absences.	members need to call or e-mail Dave before the meeting.	
Sudbury ADA Plan	<p>Carol visited the Framingham Town Hall to get copies of their ADA Plan RFP. Dave contact the Mass Office on Disability to see if there is a record of which towns have done the plan and the Transition plan, but there appears to be no reliable way to know. In the meantime, Dave contacts each of the towns recommended by Maureen Valente to learn what they have done about their ADA plan and Transition Plan. Dave has learned that staff from Project Civic Action of the US Department of Justice can come to a town and ask to see the plans.</p> <p>Acton: No one knows about the plan. Bedford, Hudson and Maynard did the work in-house, but the status of the resulting plans is not known. Weston has no transition plans and Wayland was too busy to provide info. Concord did hire an outside consultant for less than \$25,000, and has a very good plan.</p>	<p>Dave is working on a report for the Selectmen and Maureen Valente. The reports will have these sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation of the ADA law • A history of what has happened in Sudbury so far • A report of the results of the survey of similar towns • An explanation of what the liabilities are if the Town does not have formal ADA and Transition plans • Recommendations 	<p>Carol will e-mail the Framingham ADA plan to Commission members. We hope to have an article ready for the spring, 2009 Town meeting warrant.</p> <p>Dave will have a draft of the report for the Commission to review in March.</p>
Parking	MGL Ch. 40 § 21 paragraph 23B specifies wording that must be on the sign marking a handicap space, and other space requirements. If Sudbury has accepted this part of the Mass		After Town Meeting Dave will present the results of his research to Wayne Walker, Assistant Town Manager and Parking Clerk, to try to get Chief Fadgen's agreement to

Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
	General Laws, no ticketing of a violator in a non-conforming space is valid. However, Dave has learned from Elaine Jones in the Town Counsel's office that Sudbury has not accepted that law, so is governed by the Town Bylaw § 27, and police can tickets violators so long as the space involved displays the universal symbol of access.		hire a special detail to target violators.
Use of Commission Funds	No discussion		
Publicity	Susan and Anita agreed that Dave should be the person to contact the newspaper editors about publishing the emergency preparedness columns monthly since he has more cachet.	The first two articles are ready to go.	Dave has a call in to Jeff Adair of the <i>Town Crier</i> .
Financial Report	We have received a summary report for the first 6 months of the fiscal year. The Commission currently has \$17,367.50 in its account.		
Identifying the Disabled Population in Sudbury	The Voluntary Registry questionnaire has been printed, received by the boy scouts, and will be distributed with the <i>Sudbury Annual Report</i> .	The questionnaire can be filled out on paper or on line.	Kris will place drop boxes around town for those who do not wish to mail in their responses.
New Business			
Review, Renew and	Dave gave a report on progress toward the short term goals. Work on	We need to set short term goals for	New members are asked to review the mission statement and values to

Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
Reevaluate	publicity and emergency preparedness and ADA compliance is ongoing. We can eliminate the disability awareness day. We met the goal of getting included in the building plan review process. We can eliminate work on transportation as a goal since the Town has joined the MWRTA.	this year.	add their perspective.
Links for Commission's Web Site	No discussion		
40 B Housing for Veterans	Peter Harvell, the Veteran's Agent, has requested that the Commission support his request to add Veterans with a disability and veterans with a campaign medal regardless of their current or former place of residence to the list of those who receive local preference for affordable housing.	It is not clear whether the current list of Local Preferences, which includes 10 numbered categories, is a hierarchical list or simply an enumeration. The Commission voted to support Peter Harvell's request, 4 voting in the affirmative, one abstention, and one voting in the negative.	Dave will go to the Sudbury Housing Roundtable meeting February 28 to offer the commission's support.
Mass Commission for the Blind	The Mass Commission is sponsoring a one-day conference called "Focus on Vision Impairment and Blindness" Wednesday, March 12. Dave will attend.	Will we be able to pay for this out of Commission funds?	
Other: Shelters	Dave has been assisting the LEPC in reviewing overflow shelters with the LEPC and CERT. An issue has arisen in that unless all contracted shelters are open to all, the Town is in violation of the ADA. In addition, the overflow shelters will look to be	All shelters will need to be revaluated; in addition the plans call for those evacuated to overflow shelters to bring their own bedding and sleep on the floor, but this means the shelters are not accessible for those who can't sleep on the	

Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
	indemnified, and Sudbury does not indemnify contractors.	floor.	
Other: Chronic Disease Self-Management	The arthritis Foundation is working with the Senior Center to provide two peer-led series of workshops for people with chronic conditions to enable them to manage their conditions to improve their quality of life.	Anita Simon is interested in becoming a peer leader.	Kris will give her contact info to Susan Kasle, who is coordinating this effort.
Next meeting	The next meeting will be Monday, March 31 at 5:30 in the Sudbury Senior Center. Subsequent meetings are scheduled for these Mondays: April 28, May 19 (to avoid Memorial Day), June 30 and July 28.		

f:\commission on disability\2008\minutes 022508.doc