

## Sudbury Commission on Disability

Minutes of meeting, Tuesday, April 28, 2009; 7:00 PM, Sudbury Senior Center

Present: Chair, Susan Stocker, Kris Kiesel, Ben Halsband, Peter Sargent, and Carol Stoner

Absent: Lotte Diomede, David Mortimer, Anita Simon

<b>Next meeting</b>	Tuesday, May 26, 2009, 7:00 PM, Sudbury Senior Center, 40 Fairbank Road
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<b>Issue</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Decisions/Questions</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
Minutes	The minutes of the March 31 meeting were accepted as written.		
<b>Old Business</b>			
Prospective member	Susan called Debra Ernst to remind her of this evening's meeting, but Debra did not attend.		
Ad Hoc Finance Committee	The committee met April 4. It was decided to get clear prices and project designs for the items for which we have requested permission to spend Commission funds. This includes the survey and the SMILE playground. Susan has found some very good guidelines for developing this kind of mailing at the Post office website.	Susan will investigate issues around the survey and mail permit. She will speak with Mary McCormack about using the Town bulk mail permit. She will come up with the estimated cost for postage and for printing. Carol will investigate prices for the pieces of equipment the Commission proposes to buy for the SMILE project.	Once these figures are in hand, Kris will ask Maureen Valente for a meeting with Kris, Susan, and Carol to clarify the process of getting the funds released.
Ad Hoc Fields Committee	The committee met April 21. It examined the spreadsheet included in Appendix E of The Sudbury Open Space and Recreation Plan. Because this document needs to be finalized and submitted for a grant by the end of the month, it is not possible to do an	Peter has looked over the spreadsheet, and has marked it up with corrections based in part on comments provided by Dave, and also on definitions in the ADA. For example, something cannot be "partially accessible": either it is or	Peter will send the amended spreadsheet to Jody by 4/30/09. Susan will develop a checklist based on the guidebook, for Commission member's use in doing the survey.

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	<p>onsite survey of all the fields included in the document. However, the Commission would like to provide a preliminary response now, and then do a complete assessment of the fields over the summer.</p> <p>Susan has received a copy of publication 4E42A85-5HWA, <i>Accessibility Guidebook for Outdoor Recreation and Trails</i>, published by the USDA and others. This book has clear information about accessibility for parks and similar venues.</p>	<p>it is not. The Commission VOTED to have Peter send the marked up spreadsheet to Jody Kablack (Sudbury Town Planner), along with the Commission's offer to follow up by conducting in-persons assessments of all fields over the summer and providing a report to Jody.</p>	
Parking update	<p>Currently there appear to be only 4 outstanding tickets that have not been paid. The Commission has at least broken even on the expense for the project.</p>	<p>The Commission believes that the initiative was a success, and served as a good educational endeavor. It was noted that two of the detail officers were much more productive of tickets than others who worked the detail. The initiative should be repeated in September or October.</p>	<p>In August, assuming the new Police Chief has been appointed, the Commission will ask to meet with him about the project, request participation by the productive officers, and renew the offer to provide training for the officers by way of the Waltham PD.</p>
Survey	<p>Once the surveys begin to come in, we will need to tabulate them.</p>	<p>We will create a database to manage the surveys. Depending on the number of responses, the Commission members may be able to handle the data entry; if there are too many, perhaps we can get volunteer high school students to do it.</p>	
Traffic light follow-up	<p>Dave was working on this; Susan will call him to learn what has happened.</p>		

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Walking loop follow-up.	<p>Dave was working with Bill Place on the repaving and drainage issues. Susan will call for an update.</p> <p>Kris reported that there will be some additions to the adult exercise area, and markers at ¼ mile intervals around the loop. When all is ready, there will be a dedication ceremony.</p>	The Commission will be one of the sponsors of the dedication ceremony.	
Haskell Field Update	Fundraising continues, and many good prizes have been donated for the Comedy night. The night is \$60/person. Sudbury Farms has donated \$5,000 toward the project.		
Other: Sidewalk survey	Previously, the Commission had requested money to support a survey of walkways in Town to determine their accessibility. Since this was proposed, it has been learned that there are many miles of walkways, and this would be a major project.	<p>The Commission VOTED to withdraw the request for funds to support the walkway project, but to work with Bill Place and/or Jody Kablack to be included in the decision-making process as new walkways are being designed and as existing walkways are being redone.</p> <p>A tool that is useful is a smart level. The Commission purchased one, but where is it?</p>	<p>Susan will talk with Jody about this idea.</p> <p>Susan will ask Dave if he has the smart level.</p>
<b>New Business</b>			
Publicity	The Commission needs to generate publicity regularly. We need a list of topics, someone to write the press releases, and then to get them in the hands of the proper contact persons.	Articles can be information; i.e. awareness of handicap parking or emergency preparedness; can be a request for new members; or could be items the Commission is working	<p>Susan will send the list of ideas to Peter, Anita, and Kris.</p> <p>Peter will speak to the Town Crier about an article on what people need to know when purchasing an</p>

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		on. The information e-mails sent out by Dave are also a potential source of stories, but may need to be coupled with a local “hook”. Anita is interested in this. Kris will help with distribution. Peter is also interested.	accessible van.
Library project	Ben has learned that there is currently no way for people with low vision to use computers at the Goodnow Library. He knows of a program called ZoomText which can serve as a magnifier on the screen, and also convert text to audible speech, which could be listened to with head phones.	Peter also noted that Windows XP has two built in program that can be used for people with low vision: Narrator and Magnifier. (Start-programs-accessories-accessibility-magnifier (or narrator).  The ZoomText program costs between \$400 and \$750 depending on version.	Ben will speak with Bill Talentino at the library to see if Bill could purchase this program and install it on at least one computer in the library.
Emergency Preparedness	Both Ben and Susan went to seminars on emergency preparedness for people with disabilities. With the current swine flu alert, this may become a hot topic.	Ben brought back both printed and Braille versions of the course material for the use of people with low vision in Sudbury.	Kris will put the availability of this material on the website.
Phone line	Is anyone monitoring our telephone line? A rotation for checking may need to be developed.	Previously when a message was left on the line, we got an e-mail notification.	Kris will ask mark Thompson if that system is still in place.
Website	Some attention needs to be paid to updating the information on the site.		
Community Access Monitor Training	Trainings will be held in September in Boston and October in Leominster. Exact dates are not yet known.	Kris, Carol, and Peter want to be trained. The Commission can pay tuition.	Susan will inform the Commission when the dates are scheduled.

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<b>Next meeting</b>	The next meetings will be Tuesdays, May 26, June 30 and July 28 at 7:00 in the Sudbury Senior Center.		

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