

Sudbury Commission on Disability

Minutes of meeting, Tuesday, February 24, 2009; 7:00 PM, Sudbury Senior Center

Present: Chair David Mortimer, Kris Kiesel, Lotte Diomedede, Ben Halsband, Peter Sargent, Anita Simon, Susan Stocker, and Carol Stoner

Guest: Jan Tuxbury; graduate student interested in policy, attended as an observer. She is particularly interested in disability and emergency preparedness issues.

Next meeting	Tuesday, March 31, 2009, 7:00 PM, Sudbury Senior Center, 40 Fairbank Road
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Issue	Discussion	Decisions/Questions	Next Steps
Chair Pro Tem	As the meeting hour had arrived and the Commission membership has assembled except for Chair Dave Mortimer, the group decided to begin the meeting.	Susan Stocker was appointed Chairperson Pro Tem by VOTE.	When Mr. Mortimer came he resumed facilitation of the meeting.
Minutes	The Commission discussed the process for correcting errors in the minutes. It is easier to spot errors or inaccuracies soon after the meeting rather than a month later at the next meeting.	The Commission VOTED that suggestions for corrections of the minutes could be e-mail to Kris, and that minutes would be formally amended by vote of the Commission at the next meeting. Any substantive changes would be discussed then before voting. Minutes of the Tuesday, January 27, 2009 meeting were approved as amended.	Once minutes are formally accepted as submitted or as amended, Kris will post them on the Commission portion of the website.

Old Business

Welcome prospective member	Debra Ernst, a prospective Commission member, had been expected to attend but did not.		
Parking report	Susan is trying to get the requested information to assess the success of	The information requested for each ticket includes: The time of the	Susan will follow up with Andrea.

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	<p>the parking detail initiative. She asked Town Treasurer Andrea Terkelson for access to the tickets in writing. Ms. Terkelson said she would meet with Town Manager Maureen Valente as to which pieces of information could be provided, and would get back to Susan, but so far she has not.</p> <p>If the Commission were to repeat the paid parking detail initiative, it would like to know if certain dates, times, or locations yielded more tickets than other locations so those areas could be the focus of future concentration; also whether certain officers were more productive of tickets so that the Commission could request their participation in the future.</p> <p>The commission paid for six special details, during which 20 tickets were written, 7 were dismissed as having a valid placard that simply was not displayed, and 13 are outstanding, with 12 who are seeking an appeal.</p>	<p>violation, the location of the violation, the name of the officer who wrote the ticket, whether the ticket was voided with the reason for voiding and the handicap placard number (if applicable.) No personal information about the violator is requested.</p> <p>Are parking tickets covered under the freedom of information act?</p> <p>The Commission VOTED unanimously to delegate Susan to follow up by telephone with Andrea Terkelson, and if appropriate, submit a formal request for the information under the Public Record Law.</p>	
Haskell Field Update	<p>Lotte met with Wayne Walker and Jessica Bendel about the playground. Lotte’s SMILE group has raised close to \$17,000 so far to supplement the \$125,000 grant from Boundless Playgrounds, and other fundraisers are in the works, including a potential \$50,000 from Roche Brothers.</p>	<p>The exact location of the playground within Haskell Field is still not known, but Lotte expects it to be known by April 1. One issue is a plan for the field that was drawn up some time ago which specifies a parking lot in that same spot. Lotte said that Boundless Playgrounds is</p>	<p>Lotte will continue fund raising and working to help the accessible playground become a reality.</p>

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	Kris e-mailed Maureen Valente with the Commission's request to assign \$10,000 of its funds to the playground project. Ms. Valente replied that it is illegal for a town to give any of its money to a group, and that the way money could be used for the project would be to pay invoices for equipment or work.	against using the alternative site the Town is proposing. People who had developed the existing tot lot at Haskell Field are opposed to replacing it with the accessible playground, but having an inaccessible playground for able-bodied children and a separate one for children with disabilities is against the Americans with Disabilities Act.	
Survey of the population of people with disabilities in Sudbury	Kris did e-mail Maureen Valente for permission to use the Town's bulk mail permit for the survey, paying the expenses from Commission funds. There has not been a response.		Kris will follow up.
Nominating Committee report	The nominating committee met February 6, and submitted the following slate of officers for April 2009-March 2010: Chairperson, Susan Stocker, Vice Chair: Lotte Diomede, Secretary: Kristin Kiesel, Treasurer: Carol Stoner.	Dave said that he will work to make the transition from himself as Chair to Susan as smooth and quick as possible, and that he will also resign from the Commission as a personal decision.	The slate of officers will be voted on at the next commission meeting.
New Business			
2008-2012 Town of Sudbury Open Space and Recreation Plan	As Dave was trying to locate a previously developed plan for Haskell Field, he came across this document on the Town website. It is labeled a draft. Dave pointed out that there are numerous errors and mistakes in Appendix E of the plan. For example,	The Commission agreed to address this as an educational opportunity; to write letter to Town Planner Jody Kablack pointing out the problems with the report and offering our help to correct them before the draft	Kris will contact Jody with the Commission's offer.

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	<p>the plan says that the Commission on Disability was involved in the development of the plan, but it was not. The plan says that most parks and open spaces are already accessible, but that is not accurate, and many fields are called “not fully accessible” when in fact they are not accessible at all.</p> <p>The report also states that the Commission is preparing an ADA self-evaluation and transition plan, which is not true.</p>	version of the report is finalized.	
Voting booths	Dave noted that the Secretary of State has required that accessible voting machines be available at every election, not just federal elections.	Kris asked Rosemary Harvell whether Sudbury is in compliance with this law. Rosemary said that AutoMark machines have been available at every election since 2007.	
Next meeting	The next meetings will be Tuesdays, March 31, April 28, May 26, June 30 and July 28 at 7:00 in the Sudbury Senior Center.		

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